FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

24 OCTOBER 1985

Israel

Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told *DAVAR* that Jordanian King Husayn's reported declaration in an interview with *THE NEW YORK TIMES* that Peres' peace initiative is a step in the right direction should be regarded as "a certain positive response." He said that although one cannot yet talk about an "Israel-Jordan axis," the PLO is now facing the two countries. Earlier, Peres told Jerusalem television that "deterioration" would begin and a coalition headed toward confrontation in the Middle East would be created if Husayn turned down his peace initiative. Although Israel's sword is "sharp and good," the prime minister said it is "impossible to live only by the sword." Peres added that "exhausting all the possibilities" to achieve peace is a duty which transcends partisan differences. Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said in an interview with IDF radio that the prime minister's "remarks and allusions" to an international forum are not "operational statements" and do not refer to holding an international conference which might hinder Israel's interests.

Peres met with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze in New York and they discussed the possibility of reestablishing diplomatic relations, Jerusalem radio disclosed.

A Palestinian military spokesman cited by Baghdad Voice of PLO radio said a Palestinian combat group was responsible for the 23 October bomb explosions in 'Afula. Jerusalem radio announced that 80 people in the area were detained.

Egypt-Jordan

Egyptian President Husni Mubarak arrived in Amman 24 October and was received by King Husayn, Amman radio reported.

PLO Affairs

At a mass rally in Kuwait reported by KUNA and attended by representatives of Egypt's opposition parties, 'Arafat praised the Egyptian people and opposition parties and said whenever there is a crisis "we find them with us in the same trench." A Wafd Party representative told Egyptian President Mubarak that opposition leaders would have cancelled their visit to Kuwait had they been aware of comments by several PLO officials before the trip, MENA reported.

A PLO source cited by the Jordanian paper *AL-RA'Y* denied that Bishop Iliya Khuri has resigned from the PLO Executive Committee.

Morocco

King Hassan II declared a unilateral cease-fire in the Western Sahara and asked the United Nations to supervise a referendum on self-determination there in January, 1986. In a message to the UN General Assembly read by Prime Minister Mohamed Karim Lamrani and broadcast by Rabat radio, the king said Morocco will only abandon the cease-fire in the event of aggression against the territories "which are under its responsibility." He added that Morocco is prepared to receive neutral observers to verify compliance with the cease-fire. The United Nations will contribute to the "advent of a better world" if it conducts the referendum on the suggested date, the king remarked.

A Polisario Front spokesman cited by Madrid radio rejected the king's proposals, while a Spanish official spokesman quoted by the radio expressed "satisfaction."

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi planes launched a "devastating" attack on the Bahregan oil field, according to an Iraqi communique broadcast by Voice of the Masses radio. Monitored Iranian media have not been observed to report the raid.

IRNA reported that Iranian forces killed or wounded over 300 Iraqi troops in the "Ashura IV" operation. Earlier, an Iraqi military source cited by INA said Iraqi forces killed 70 Iranian troops during a "violent" raid on Iranian positions in Al-Huwayzah 22 October.

Iran

Prime Minister Mir Hoseyn Musavi in a letter to the Majlis speaker submitted a list of nominees for 24 ministerial posts which includes a new defense minister and four other new members, IRNA reported. The list has already been approved by President 'Ali Khamene'i and now requires Majlis approval.

Lebanon

Beirut radio reported that Amal movement and Hizballah leaders discussed "the need to avoid peripheral battles" during a meeting at the Iranian Embassy in Beirut.

Sudan

Southern rebel leader Colonel John Garang's cease-fire is an "obstacle" and an attempt to destroy any active effort for a peaceful settlement in Sudan, Prime Minister al-Jazuli Daf'allah told MENA.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

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Jordan, Egypt, Iraq Leaders to Meet in Baghdad

GF240800 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 0720 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 24 Oct (WAM) — Press reports published here today say that an Arab tripartite summit will be held within the next few hours in Baghdad which will be attended by King Husayn of Jordan, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, and Iraqi President Saddam Husayn. They will discuss the current Arab situation and peace opportunities in the Middle East and developments in the Iraq-Iran war.

The newspaper *AL-ITTIHAD AL-USBU'I* today says that it was agreed to hold this summit during telephone conversations which King Husayn held the day before yesterday with the Egyptian and Iraqi presidents. Following these conversations it was decided that President Mubarak would visit Jordan.

The paper quotes a reliable Jordanian source as saying that he expects King Husayn to accompany President Mubarak and that they both will fly to Baghdad to hold the summit there. The source adds that the three leaders will discuss the available opportunities for peace, particularly following the setback to the Jordanian-Palestinian accord as a result of the cancellation of the joint delegation's meeting in London.

The Jordanian source does not rule out that the seven-point Israeli initiative announced By Shim'on Peres, the enemy prime minister, at the United Nations will be among the subjects to be discussed despite the pitfalls that this initiative includes, foremost among which is its exclusion of the PLO, and direct negotiations which might be the main obstacle with regard to accepting them as a basis for moving toward a just and comprehensive peace. In addition, the Israeli initiative does not refer with sufficient clarity to Israel's willingness to withdraw totally from the occupied Arab territories, including the Golan Heights, which Israel has annexed, and Jerusalem.

Tunisia Tells PLO To Transfer Headquarters

GF231427 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 22 Oct 85 pp 1, 15

[Excerpt] Tunisian-Palestinian relations have deteriorated; relations have been frozen in the wake of the Israeli air raid on the PLO headquarters.

Senior Palestinian sources in Tunis told *AL-WATAN* that the deterioration in relations between the Tunisian Government and the Palestinian leadership can be attributed to two reasons. First: Tunisian lauding of the UN Security Council resolution which denounced the Israeli raid without denouncing Israel and without referring to the Palestinian issue. Palestinian sources expressed their indignation and astonishment at the Tunisian media campaign, which expressed jubilation at this resolution. Second: What shook the relationship between the Tunisian Government and the Palestinian leadership is the refusal to grant permission to the Egyptian plane — which was carrying "Abu al-'Abbas" [Muhammad 'Abbas] and the four Palestinian gunmen — to land at Tunis-Carthage airport. The Palestinian source contends that the Tunisian Government promised the Egyptian Government it would receive the plane, then retracted the promise under U.S. pressure. In light of this grave dissension between the Palestinian leadership and the Tunisian authorities, well-informed sources told *AL-WATAN* that the Tunis government gave the Palestinians a time limit -- not more than a few months -- to transfer their offices to another capital.

PLO Chairman on Relations With UK, Tunis, Cairo

GF232008 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1930 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Doha, 23 Oct (WAKH) — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, praised the firm relations between the PLO and the state of Qatar which supports the organization and the Palestinian struggle.

Regarding the refusal of Geoffrey Howe, UK secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, to receive the joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, 'Arafat said that he will not discuss the details of this issue until an evaluation has been made of the stand toward it, referring to the discussion which began today between the Jordanian monarch,His Majesty King Husayn, and senior Jordanian officials and a Palestinian delegation. He explained that the United States has put pressure on British Prime Minister Thatcher in this regard, and that this stand should be left for the British people to evaluate because this British step is not only directed against the Palestinian people, but against the Arab nation and British diplomacy toward the Arabs.

Answering questions on whether he will visit Cairo during his current Arab tour and on the return of Egypt to the Arab nation, Yasir 'Arafat said that he was the first Arab leader to visit Egypt after the boycott. He added that he still stresses the need to restore Egypt to Arab ranks and away from the Camp David policy. 'Arafat reiterated that the imbalance will continue in the region as long as Egypt is not restored to the Arab arena and as long as the Iraq-Iran war does not end.

As for the reports disseminated on proposals made by Egypt and Iraq to host the PLO headquarters, Yasir 'Arafat said at a news conference: This actually took place. I thanked the Egyptian and Iraqi leaderships for this. He pointed out that the Tunisian position has not changed toward the Palestinian leadership.

'Arafat supported the idea of holding a summit meeting with His Majesty King Husayn shortly or during his current tour of the Arab countries. Reiterating his adherence to the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, he pointed out that the PLO still wants a durable, just, and comprehensive peace in the region, yet the PLO will never accept capitulation or political extortion — such as the extortion that Britain tried to practice recently.

He welcomed the efforts to clear the Arab atmosphere and the results attained in this regard. He expressed the PLO's readiness to respond in favor of the efforts of the committee in charge of clearing the Arab atmosphere.

On the convening of an international conference to resolve the region's crisis, 'Arafat reaffirmed the need to hold such a conference in the presence of all sides concerned and in the presence of the five UN Security Council member-countries.

As for the situation in Lebanon, the Palestinian leader said: We welcome every dialogue designed to attain security and stability in Lebanon, in addition to any solution the Lebanese accept, including the collection of weapons.

Concluding his statement, 'Arafat expressed optimism that Palestinian rights will soon be attained in light of the sources of power possessed by the Arab nation and the weakness of the Israeli entity.

'Arafat Praises Egypt's Solidarity With Palestinians

LD231118 KUWAIT KUNA in Arabic 0926 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Kuwait, 23 Oct (KUNA) — PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has said that the Palestinian rifle will remain steadfast and will never be laid down. He said at a mass rally at PLO headquarters last night, in the presence of representatives of Egyptian opposition parties, that the Palestinian revolution faces difficulties from the U.S. decision [to ignore the PLO]; this decision is understood in Israel and in the Arab world as meaning that there is no Palestinian military power.

On the other hand, 'Arafat rejected the "American Camp David logic," and reaffirmed his belief in the inevitability of the victory of the Palestinian revolution and the Arab nation. He praised the stance of the Egyptian people and opposition parties and said that every time the Palestinian revolution or the Arab nation entered an impasse, the brothers in Egypt were always in the forefront contributing to overcoming the impasse with initiatives stemming from the heart and feelings.

Giving examples, he cited the positions of the Egyptian people and the Egyptian parties on the Camp David accords and during the Israeli siege of Beirut and the siege of Tripoli (Lebanon). He said: Whenever matters reach a crisis we find them with us in the same trench." 'Arafat described the Palestinian revolution as essentially democratic both internally and externally, and said it has never been a democracy of the nines [as in some democracies in Arab countries where rulers proclaim their so-called reelection by 99.99 percent of the votes].

He added: The ordeal we are now going through is not a Palestinian ordeal because the typhoon has already passed over us, but it is still shaking the region. He wondered how the Arab nation is going to face up to this storm. 'Arafat said that the Palestinian pledge will remain the same, the Palestinian oath will also remain the same, and the Palestinian rifle will not be laid down. But, he added, it has not been easy for the Palestinian revolution to preserve the rifle.

'Arafat, Khalaf Address Mass Rally in Kuwait

JN231837 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] In a speech at the mass rally held by the PLO office in Kuwait last night in the presence of the delegation representing the Egyptian opposition parties led by Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Socialist Labor Party, as well as in the presence of a great number of people from the Palestinian and Egyptian communities in Kuwait, brother leader Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] asserted that the struggle of the Arab nation and the Arab people in Egypt at the side of the Palestinian has not stopped and will continue until we achieve victory over Zionism.

Brother Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf], Fatah Central Committee member, asserted in his speech at the rally that the Palestinian-Tunisian blood shed by the U.S.-supported Zionist aggressive raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis will not be wasted.

Ibrahim Shukri, leader of the Egyptian opposition parties' delegation and leader of the Socialist Labor Party, asserted that the Egyptian people strongly support the PLO in its legitimate struggle against Zionism. He noted that the Palestinian people no longer need an apology from U.S. President Ronald Reagan since the aggression and its objectives have been exposed.

Al-Wazir Denies Reports of Moving PLO Offices

JN231907 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Brother Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, has asserted that the PLO political headquarters will remain in Tunis and the PLO military headquarters will remain in Sanaa. He said that the PLO has no intention of moving these headquarters to other places.

In a statement to the press today, Brother Abu Jihad said that reports of moving the PLO headquarters to Baghdad or Cairo are groundless. He said that the enemy continuously concentrates on information it wants to spread in order to prepare for aggressive operations. The enemy is creating a media uproar about our presence in Jordan in order to prepare for a blow it intends to direct [at Jordan]. This is despite the fact that nothing new has emerged about our presence in Jordan for 4 years or more. What is new are some limited administrative measures which the enemy tried to exaggerate to justify its aggressive plans.

On national Palestinian unity and efforts exerted by the national unity committee formed by the PNC in its recent session in Amman, brother Abu Jihad said: The PLO through its leadership and the Fatah movement through its Central Committee and Revolutionary Council are doing everything possible to prepare the required environment in order to achieve Palestinian accord, to draw up plans for common action in the coming stage, to reinforce unity in the Palestinian arena, and to develop Palestinian struggle.

PLO Source Denies Bishop Khuri Resignation

JN240655 Amman AL-RA'Y in Arabic 24 Oct 85 p 1

[Text] Amman (WAFA) — A responsible PLO source has stated the following: Some news agencies have spread reports that Bishop Iliya Khuri, PLO Executive Committee member, has tendered his resignation. We announce that this is not true and that Bishop Khuri is still in his position and is continuing work.

PNC Speaker on Riyadh Talks, Jordan-PLO Accord

JN240928 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 24 Oct 85 p 15

[By Tawfiq 'Abid]

[Text] Amman — PNC Speaker His Eminence Shaykh 'Abd al-Hamid al-Sa'ih has welcomed the Jordanian-Syrian agreement which is the first positive result following efforts by the committee in charge of clearing the Arab atmosphere. He said: I welcome any agreement between two Arab states because what is required is the agreement of Arab kings and presidents on a political course which is in the interest of the Arab cause.

In an exclusive statement to *SAWT AL-SHA'B*, Al-Sa'ih said the results of the meeting in Jeddah last Sunday between Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i and [Syrian Prime Minister] Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm supported what was agreed to at the Casablanca extraordinary summit conference, particularly in terms of the Arab leaders' adherence to the Fes summit resolutions and to the concept that no Arab state whatsoever has the right to separately resolve the conflict with Israel. His eminence explained that the final statement on the Jordanian-Syrian meeting included these two points. Therefore, he said, I consider, from a position of responsibility, that what took place was positive. He expressed his hope that relations between Iraq and Syria will improve to pave the way for convening the ordinary Arab summit in Riyadh.

His Eminence Shaykh al-Sa'ih called on the Arab leaders to recognize the conspiracy that Israel and the United States are concocting against the Palestine question, and to increase rapprochement in order to adopt one course that guarantees the interests of the Arab and Islamic nations.

On the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, the PNC speaker said that the agreement is firm and continuing which is contrary to what is being said or spread about it being exposed to cancellation by one of its parties. He said that it is in the interest of Jordan and the PLO to adhere to the agreement in the service of the Palestine question.

His Eminence Shaykh al-Sa'ih described relations between Jordan and the PLO as strategic. Therefore, he said, I do not expect them to change particularly due to what happened recently in London.

In reply to a question, he said that the rumors about the resignation of Bishop Iliya Khuri from the PLO Executive Committee are completely baseless, adding that he has not received anything about this matter, and particularly as there are precise procedures laid down for such matters in accordance with the PNC bylaws. He affirmed that he only knew of the resignation from the papers. He said: This being so, then why do we give it more than it deserves?

Palestinian Spokesman Claims 'Afula Explosion

JN231806 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] A military spokesman for the Palestinian revolution forces general command has made the following statement:

In implementation of our great Palestinian people's will and in accordance with the revolution leadership's instructions, one of our combat groups operating inside the occupied homeland was able to plant timed explosive devices in the center of 'Afula inside the occupied homeland.

The explosion of these devices this morning resulted in grave physical losses and in the killing or wounding of many Zionist soldiers. Despite the armed security cordon and Zionist precautionary measures, our combat group was able to leave the area of operation with complete success. Revolution until victory!

Signed: The General Command of the Palestinian Revolution Forces

The enemy radio admitted the operation at noon today, but, as usual, did not mention its losses. The radio said that its forces cordoned off the area, imposed a curfew, and launched large-scale search campaigns among our Palestinian people for our brave revolutionaries, but to no avail.

Syrian Intelligence Blamed for Death in S. Lebanon

JN231926 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1645 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Syrian intelligence forces committed a new ugly crime against our Palestinian people in southern Lebanon when they killed Palestinian citizen 'Adnan Rabbah near the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp yesterday. Reports from southern Lebanon said an atmosphere of strong tension and resentment prevails among Palestinian citizens in the 'Ayn al-Hulwah camp and that Palestinian fighters defending the camp have closed its entrances.

This is the third assassination crime committed by Syrian intelligence forces against the Palestinian people in Sidon and 'Ayn al-Hulwah in southern Lebanon.

INTRA-GULF AFFAIRS

GCC Official Notes Outcome of Petroleum Meeting

GF231912 Riyadh SPA in Arabic
1715 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Riyadh, 23 Oct (SPA) — Dr 'Abdallah al-Quwayz, GCC assistant secretary general for economic affairs, has stressed the GCC keenness to embody the principle of cohesion among the GCC countries.

In a statement he made on the meetings of the GCC ministerial committee for petroleum cooperation that concluded yesterday in Riyadh, Dr al-Quwayz discussed the projects which will be established in the Sultanate of Oman. He said that the GCC petroleum ministers hammered out in principle a formula stating that when the petroleum market improves, the issue of establishing an oil refinery in the Sultanate of Oman will be looked into. He added that other industrial projects were referred to a GCC industrial cooperation committee for study. He pointed out that these projects are represented in the iron, steel, and gypsum projects, in addition to the completion of the electric power project in the Sultanate of Oman. Dr al-Quwayz also said that the GCC petroleum ministers also reached an agreement on the issue of exchanging petroleum among the member-countries in case production comes to a halt at any installation in any member-country. He pointed out that it was agreed that the process of lending [oil-producing facilities] would take place among the GCC countries in such a way that unity is emphasized among the member-countries.

As for the export of gas from Kuwait to Qatar, he said that the ministerial committee for petroleum cooperation listened to a report presented by the governor of the general institution of petroleum and minerals. The report indicated that the coordination process has reached an advanced stage and it was decided to follow up the subject shortly. He said that the ministers reviewed the contacts between the GCC and the EEC with regard to cooperation and trade exchange, and supported these contacts. He also noted that a meeting between the GCC and the EEC will be held in December. A similar meeting will be held with the United States in January 1986.

BAHRAIN

'Arafat Arrives, Meets Foreign Minister

GF240958 Manama WAKH in Arabic
0910 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Manama, 24 Oct (WAKH) — Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Manama today from Doha within a tour of a number of countries in the region. He is accompanied by Salah Khalaf, member of the Fatah Central Committee.

'Arafat was received by Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah, and Wafa al-Nabhan, director of the PLO office in Bahrain.

Upon his arrival, the Palestinian leader stated that the purpose of his tour of the region is to explain in general the serious developments that the Arab nation is passing through, the Palestinian issue in particular, and the challenges that face it following the Israeli raid on PLO headquarters in Tunis and the latest developments regarding the civilian Egyptian plane.

He said that these developments do not merely concern the PLO but also the whole Arab nation.

He said that the talks which he will hold with Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah will center on these issues and other issues of interest to the Arab nation, and developments in the Palestinian issue.

KUWAIT

Amir Telephones Iraqi President Husayn

LD232147 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic
1700 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] This morning the amir telephoned His Excellency Brother President Saddam Husayn, president of fraternal Iraq. The conversation concentrated on the current Arab situation.

Oil Minister Persuaded To Withdraw Resignation

GF231502 Kuwait AL-QABAS in Arabic
22 Oct 85 p 1

[Excerpt] *AL-QABAS* has learned that Oil and Industry Minister Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifah has actually withdrawn his resignation after his highness the prime minister and his colleagues the Cabinet ministers persuaded him to resume his duties, in accordance with the statement made by the minister of state for Cabinet affairs few days ago.

OMAN

Sultan Discisses Army, GCC, Relations With USSR

GF230945 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Excerpts] His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id held an important and comprehensive news conference last night [22 October] with the media — radio, television, press, and ONA. In the interview, his majesty talked about various local, Gulf, Arab, and international issues.

His majesty the sultan asserted that the Sultan of Oman's Armed Forces are characterized by quality, not size. He stated that they are constantly developing in competence, equipment, and the standard of education and training. His majesty added: Our Armed Forces have always proven that they are one of the pillars of this country in times of peace and war.

His majesty spoke of current achievements by the Sultan's Armed Forces in the areas of security and stability. His majesty remarked that engineering units of the Sultan's Armed Forces

are building roads in remote areas. The Sultan's Air Force transports travelers to and from some remote areas.

On his evaluation of the information media in Oman, his majesty said: Information processing in Oman follows the right course and branches of the media are being developed to keep abreast of developments in the Sultanate. He stated that the first goal of the media in this country is truth, so that events can be accurately reported. The media's other goal is to be in touch with facts so as to have a positive effect on opinion inside the Sultanate and abroad.

On the progress of the GCC, his majesty the sultan said: The GCC is moving along the correct course. Its establishment stemmed from our feeling that we all belong to one region and one destiny, since the people of the Gulf region are joined together by common history, language, and religion. He stated that the political structure has formed a coordinated group, which has expressed true cooperation among the GCC countries. He lauded the achievements of the GCC countries. He said: Present and future cooperation among the GCC countries proves the importance of integration for the sake of the GCC peoples' welfare and prosperity.

Responding to a question on the steps taken by the GCC countries to confront the challenges and threats to which the region is subjected, His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id announced that security coordination among the Gulf countries has taken satisfactory and positive steps. His majesty expressed hope that more extensive steps would be taken in the future. His majesty said that Oman's view on defense and establishing a defense force is to concentrate on quality, not size, which means that it is better to have a force of reasonable size able to absorb technological developments in military matters and to use the equipment available to it.

His majesty expressed hope that the tendency within the GCC will be characterized by this, concentrating on quality and abilities, not merely concentrating on size and purchasing equipment.

His majesty the sultan emphasized that the Sultanate's foreign policy is based on befriending all the people of the world and on having relations with all the people of the world, based on mutual respect and nonintervention in internal affairs.

Responding to a question on the establishment of diplomatic relations with the USSR, his majesty said that contacts had been made 2 years ago on the known bases of Oman's foreign policy. He said: We found that we could say "welcome." His majesty added that these contacts with the USSR took place via a third party, but not a Gulf country. The contacts were made through a party considered a friend of both sides. He stated that the announcement pertaining to the establishment of diplomatic relations with the USSR was made at the United Nations — neutral territory — when the Omani minister of state for foreign affairs met with the USSR foreign minister in New York.

His majesty the sultan expressed regret at the continuation of the Iraq-Iran war. He said: First of all this war is between two Muslim countries, and two neighbors joined together by a long history. He asserted that it is useless and meaningless to continue the war. His majesty again appealed to the two sides to lay their differences aside and sit down and negotiate to solve their problems by peaceful means. His majesty expressed hope that the committee formed by the ICO will be able to play a role to end the war and that this committee will be supported by all Arabs and Muslims, all of whom have an interest in the stability of this region and the world.

In connection with Arab soldiarity, his majesty called for renouncing Arab differences. He said that most of the differences are regrettably caused by lack of confidence. His majesty urged good and careful planning of Arab meetings until the desired aim from these meetings is achieved.

On the upcoming meeting between U.S. President Ronald Reagan and USSR leader Mikhail Gorbachev, His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id expressed hope that the meeting between the two superpowers in November will contribute to security and stability in the world. He said: [I hope that] they will work for peace, and for the sake of humanity, and that they will lay aside their political and ideological differences and work for the good of humanity.

On the role of the United Nations in international affairs, his majesty expressed hope that some countries threatening to withdraw from some UN institutions will change their minds and reconsider their stands concerning these institutions. His Majesty said: It is imperative to have an organization like the United Nations, in view of its role to serve humanitarian causes and the aid that it extends particularly to the Third World countries, in addition to the political aspect represented by the UN General Assembly, in which some countries find an outlet for their problems.

Foreign Minister Returns from UN Session

GF231114 Muscat Domestic Service in Arabic
0700 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Yusuf 'Alawi 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, arrived home today from New York, where he headed the Sultanate's delegation to the UN 40th session. He also participated in the United Nations 40th anniversary celebrations.

In a statement to our correspondent, Yusuf 'Alawi 'Abdallah said that after participating in the UN 40th session meetings, he joined the Sultanate's delegation to the United Nations 40th anniversary celebrations headed by Faysal ibn 'Ali ibn Faysal, minister of national heritage and culture, on behalf of his majesty the sultan. He stated that His Highness Faysal ibn 'Ali held exchanges with the heads of friendly delegations participating in the meetings. At the meetings relations between the sultanate and these countries were discussed. He also reviewed international issues.

The minister of state for foreign affairs stated that during the UN General Assembly meetings he had the opportunity to meet

with the foreign ministers of the UN member-states with whom the sultanate has good relations. He said he also met with the GCC countries foreign ministers. They reviewed world affairs and discussed topics on the UN General Assembly meeting's agenda and coordination among the six GCC countries.

He expressed satisfaction with the notable position the Sultanate enjoys in international politics and with its efforts based on solving world problems on the principles of world peace. Responding to a question about the Sultanate's new relations with the Soviet Union, he said: Oman's relations with the Soviets are new and characterized by the general desire to develop them.

He expressed his belief that the Soviet Union reciprocates the feelings.

Responding to a question on whether Oman hopes to establish similar diplomatic relations with the Eastern bloc countries, he said: Each case is reviewed by the Sultanate independently. The same principles on the establishment of relations will apply as applied to the Soviet Union.

Yusuf 'Alawi 'Abdallah was received on his return by Sayf ibn Hamad al-Battashi, under secretary at the Foreign Ministry; 'Ali ibn 'Abdallah al-Musafir, chief of protocol at the ministry; and the British ambassador to the Sultanate.

QATAR

Amir Receives 'Arafat, Discusses Region

GF231240 Doha QNA in Arabic
1045 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Doha, 23 Oct (QNA) — His Highness Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, amir of Qatar, today received Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. The meeting was attended by Khalid ibn 'Abdallah al-'Atiyyah, minister of public works; Salah Khalaf, member of the Fatah Central Committee; and 'Abd al-Shafi Siyam, assistant director of the PLO office in Doha.

During the meeting, they reviewed developments in the Palestinian issue on the Arab and international levels, and the situation in the occupied territories, in addition to current developments and their political impact on the Middle East crisis and recent events in the Arab arena.

SAUDI ARABIA

King Fahd, FRG Official Discuss Arms Imports

LD221931 Hamburg DPA in German
1739 GMT 22 Oct 85

[Text] Madinah, 22 Oct (DPA) — King Fahd wants to clarify the matter of possible Federal German arms exports to Saudi Arabia. Federal Republic plans relating to this had unleashed violent opposition, particularly in Israel. At the close of a conversation lasting over an hour on Tuesday in the new Royal Palace in Madinah, King Fahd assured North Rhine-Westphalia Prime Minister Johannes Rau that friendship was more important than arms.

Rau, who is the Social Democratic Party of Germany candidate-designate for the 1987 election for chancellor, reported further in connection with his meeting with the king that he had assured and explained to the Saudis that the Social Democrats' "no" to arms exports was based on other reasons than German policy towards Israel. The refusal of arms exports was not directed against Arabs, but rather sprang from the conviction that the German contribution to today's world must consist of goods and services other than weapons.

AL-RIYAD Denies Rumors on UK Arms Deal Financing

GF240856 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic
0400 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] In its editorial today, the newspaper *AL-RIYAD* comments on the tendentious campaigns to which Saudi Arabia has been subjected in connection with the British arms deal which the Kingdom has obtained. The paper says: The Kingdom has been the target of such campaigns on more than one occasion. A short while ago, it was rumored that its currency reserves have shrunk and that it is on the brink of collapse with regard to its internal and international financial commitments. A British newspaper has also attempted to turn the recent arms deal between the Saudi and British Governments into a case in which go-betweens and brokers are involved.

The paper wonders: What is the reason behind making the Kingdom a direct target for such campaigns? Is there a party which benefits from this, which has devoted its aims and methods to the fabrication of lies and calumnies capable of creating negative manifestations which are reflected on the Kingdom, by affirming that this might happen? A rumor about financial bankruptcy is aimed at depriving the Kingdom of the international benefits which have embodied its relations as a party which defends and respects its resolutions. These benefits are represented by friendly relations which are free from a lack of confidence or attempt to blackmail the other side for ulterior motives. The aim [of such a campaign] is to undermine its international financial standing which is not affected by unexpected situations.

UAE

Minister Addresses UN on Adherence to Charter

GF240934 Manama WAKH in Arabic
0555 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 24 Oct (WAKH) — The UAE has urged the international community to adhere to the UN Charter and its aims, and demanded the great powers — members of the UN Security Council — bear their responsibility toward security and stability in the world and respect the international will embodied by UN resolutions and recommendations, so that the interna-

tional organization can carry out its humanitarian and peaceful role. In an address at the United Nations on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of its establishment, Rashid 'Abdallah, UAE minister of state for foreign affairs, affirmed the UAE's adherence to the United Nations, proceeding from its conviction of the constructive role that the United Nations has performed and continues to perform in achieving international peace and security and in its constant efforts to serve humanity. Rashid 'Abdallah added that the UAE, while participating with the whole world in the celebrations of the 40th anniversary of establishing the United Nations, believes that serious developments in numerous international issues which have not been solved, foremost among which is the Palestinian question — the heart of the conflict in the Middle East — the Iraq-Iran war which is now in its 6th year, the situation in southern Africa, and economic issues, in addition to the threat of nuclear arms, all threaten international peace and security.

Paper Welcomes Syrian-Jordanian Rapprochement

GF231559 Manama WAKH in English
1530 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Manama, 23 Oct (WAKH) — A UAE newspaper welcomed today the recent rapprochement between Syria and Jordan which would enable them to confront the Israeli enemy and foil its schemes to deal individually with the Arab world. *AL-ITTIHAD* newspaper of Abu Dhabi described the progress in the Jordanian-Syrian relations as "a ray of hope amidst the heavy fog covering the Arab atmosphere." The newspaper added "all defeats and catastrophies of the nation are due to its internal differences and preoccupations distracting it from the main struggle to fight Israel and those who support it." The newspaper pointed out "Syria and Jordan together have the longest confrontation lines with the Israeli enemy. Their differences have weakened their stands especially in the military aspect." "It is a chronic gap that produced a deep rift in their steadfastness and allowed the enemy psychological supremacy over them." Noting that reconciliation between the two countries would help resolve other Arab differences, the newspaper said "we do not expect a sudden solution to all Arab problems but each move in this direction is welcome because it shows their awareness of the struggle with Israel."

PDRY

Chairman Receives Congratulations From Castro

GF231724 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1500 GMT 23 Oct 85

["Text" of congratulatory cable sent by Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the Council of State and Council of Ministers, to 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, on his reelection as YSP secretary general — date not given]

[Text] On the occasion of your reelection as the YSP secretary general, we would like to express to you personally and to the YSP leadership our true heartfelt congratulations. The success of the third congress of your struggling party has manifested the exemplary level of maturity achieved by the Yemeni revolution under your wise leadership. It is an example of your high determination to continue your constant march toward building a new society by overcoming all difficulties to change the PDRY into a permanent fort, a bastion for the revolutionary powers, and a bright hope for the region's people, especially the Arab people, who are struggling for progress and independent development and against the pressures, threats, and aggression of imperialism, Zionism, and reactionaryism.

Our peoples, parties, and governments have anchored relations throughout the long years of our joint struggle. These relations are unshakable as they are based on revolutionary principles. On this occasion, we must stress them. Dear Comrade 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, and through you the YSP Central Committee, please always accept our extremely high esteem.

Deputy Chairman Receives PFLP's George Habash

GF231354 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Brother 'Ali Ahmad Nasir 'Antar, member of the Political Bureau and deputy chairman of the Supreme People's Council Presidium, today received at his office PFLP Secretary General George Habash. During the meeting they expressed views on the current political developments in the Arab region, especially the developments on the Palestinian arena, including the serious conspiracies aimed against the Palestinian cause designed to liquidate it and do away with the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Arab Palestinian people.

Soviet Trade Delegation Arrives in Sanaa

GF231308 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] A Soviet economic trade delegation led by (Chamvoskiy), director of the directorate of economic cooperation with the Middle East countries at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade [name and title as heard], arrived in Sanaa this morning. The delegation will hold discussions with the officials on preparation for the meeting of the first session of the joint Yemeni-Soviet committee for economic and trade cooperation, scheduled to convene in Moscow at the end of this year.

In a statement to SABA' news agency, the Soviet official said that he will discuss with the brother officials future economic cooperation between our country and the Soviet Union. The Soviet official said that various economic and trade issues will also be discussed during the committee meeting.

He was received by 'Abd al-Wali al-'Asim, deputy assistant of the central organ for planning; a number of officials of the central organ; and Anatoliy Filev, the Soviet ambassador in Sanaa.

Mubarak Leaves for Talks With King Husayn

NC240942 Paris AFP in English
0938 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Cairo, Oct 24 (AFP) — Egyptian President Husni Mubarak left today for Jordan, where he will discuss Middle East developments with King Husayn, it was announced.

Among likely topics of conversation will be the Palestinian situation following the hijacking of the Italian liner *Achille Lauro*, as well as bilateral ties and the possibilities for Middle East peace talks.

Egypt and Jordan restored ties in September 1984, more than five years after they were broken off because of the Egyptian-Israeli peace treaty.

Mubarak Criticizes PLO-Opposition Meeting

PM240915 Cairo AL-AHRAM International Edition in Arabic 23 Oct 85 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Egyptian Parties' Contacts With PLO Do Not Express Egypt's Unified National Stand"]

[Text] An *AL-AHRAM* correspondent has learned that President Mubarak heard with astonishment and deep regret the report that a delegation representing some Egyptian parties has left for Kuwait to hold talks with the PLO leadership. Such an action is regarded as contrary to the procedure the state leadership has set for itself in dealing with Arab and international problems, in that they are national issues on which the Egyptian people adopt a united stand that rises above parties and disputes. This was clearly evident in President Mubarak's meeting last week with leaders of all the Egyptian parties.

What makes this action stranger still is the fact that it comes in the wake of irresponsible statements by certain personalities affiliated with the PLO leadership, showing a lack of appreciation for Egypt's bold stand during recent events. This is despite the fact that it has been established that all those responsible in the PLO leadership were absent from the scene of events while they were happening, despite their realization of the critical nature of the situation and the great need for holding contacts and coordinating moves vis-a-vis the successive developments with a view to serving the national interest.

Among these sharply critical statements was what Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf] said at PLO headquarters in Baghdad — that the PLO never wanted to send the hijackers to Tunis. It was also his demand that an investigation be carried out into the reason why the hijackers were put on the Egyptian plane bound for Tunis in order to be tried by the PLO. He cast doubts on the motives and reasons behind Egypt's action in sending the hijackers to Tunis.

This is in addition to Abu al-'Abbas' [Muhammad 'Abbas] statement to an Arab magazine in which he said that the practical outcome of the hijacking of the *Achille Lauro* was the success achieved in undermining the special U.S.-Egyptian relationship and speeding the collapse of the Camp David treaty. Abu al-'Abbas did not conceal his true feelings toward Egypt when he said in the same statement that the official [Egyptian] stand was comfortable, but that certain behind-the-scenes stands were not comfortable for him, and that his trip both to and from Egypt was forced on him.

Wafd Official Briefs Mubarak on PLO Meeting

NC231720 Cairo MENA in Arabic
1630 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Cairo, 23 Oct (MENA) — President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Yasin Siraj al-Din, a Wafd Party representative in the People's Assembly, this afternoon. Afterward, Siraj al-Din pointed out that the meeting was in preparation for the new People's Assembly session, which is due to open in 2 weeks. Siraj al-Din said he explained to the president that the visit to Kuwait by a delegation from the opposition parties had been arranged before the recent statements by PLO officials Abu al-'Abbas [Muhammad 'Abbas] and Abu Iyad [Salah Khalaf]. Had the opposition known of their comments before the trip, it would have been canceled. The People's Assembly member expressed deep disappointment at these statements.

President Mubarak has our undivided support on this issue, just as he does on any other national matter. His courageous and comprehensive defense of Egypt's sovereignty and dignity are unmatched.

Mubarak, Aides Discuss Recent Developments

NC231515 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic
1230 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Statement by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif following a meeting between President Husni Mubarak and senior political assistants on 23 October; place not given — recorded]

[Excerpts] President Husni Mubarak reviewed a number of issues related to the bilateral talks that will be held during the visits here by Sudanese President Siwar al-Dhahab, the Guinean president, and the Pakistani president. All of these trips are scheduled to take place in the next few weeks. The president discussed the major political and economic questions, as well as our cooperation with Sudan, Guinea, and Pakistan.

Afterward, the president and the ministers examined a series of economic reports covering the fields of construction, health, and planning.

The president then reviewed recent developments in the region, citing the U.S., Italian, and Israeli positions. The president also mentioned the stands taken by the Arabs and the Palestinians, and pointed to the Egyptian people's feelings and unified position. The president gave a detailed briefing on the circumstances that governed Egypt's decisions, stressing that the choices made throughout this fast-breaking episode were purely Egyptian. In addition, he said that they lived up to the Egyptian people's values, traditions, and leading role. At this point, the president declared: Under no circumstances would I ever tolerate any interference with Egyptian decisionmaking or any harm to Egypt's dignity.

AL-AKBAR Criticizes U.S. Ambassador's Behavior

PM231024 [Editorial Report] Cairo *AL-AKHBAR* in Arabic on 18 October publishes on pages 1 and 7 a 6,000-word article by Musa Sabri entitled "Open Letter to the Arab Kings and Presidents" discussing their attitudes during the recent crisis of the Italian ship hijacking and the interception of the Egyptian plane carrying the four Palestinian hijackers. The letter, addressed to President Bourguiba, King Hassan II, President Hafiz al-Asad, Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi, and King Fahd, is critical of the Arab leaders' attitudes toward Egypt in the past and present, particularly during the recent events. In particular it accuses Bourguiba of collusion with the United States in the plans to intercept the Egyptian civilian plane, giving details of contacts that took place between Egypt and the Tunisian Government to arrange for the plane to land in Tunis. "There is no excuse for going back on a word of honor and for conspiring in the dark," the article remarks of Bourguiba.

The article concludes with the following reference to the U.S. ambassador in Cairo:

"A Word to the U.S. Ambassador:

"I cannot postpone addressing to Mr Veliotes, the U.S. ambassador to Egypt, the word I promised in my previous article:

"Please know, Mr Ambassador, that you are ambassador to Egypt for a superpower with whom we are linked by the closest of ties and that you are not a high commissioner in this country. Please read what the American ambassadors used to do before relations were broken in 1967 and after they were restored. They used to give sincere advice to those in the White House and the State Department and to work always to improve and strengthen relations. They used to explain to those concerned the true feelings of the Egyptian people, which computers cannot understand.

"But in the recent crisis you were an element of provocation for the White House and the State Department.

"U.S. Defense Secretary Weinberger understood and sincerely advised Reagan that the interception operation would destroy the relations between Egypt and the United States. He said this to him several times.

"But in your public statements — that is, of course, in addition to your secret contacts and reports — you were a provocative element for Washington, as well as an element aiding the Zionist forces in the White House which are seeking to shake and destroy the relations between Egypt and the United States and which want to embarrass the Egyptian president, who is calling for peace earnestly and honorably.

"Allow me to be frank with you: You have helped the White House adopt a reckless decision which has marred the U.S. reputation. You are here, Mr Ambassador, to establish good relations between us and your country and not to create a bitter rift in these relations."

Changes Suggested for U.S. Role in Peace Process

NC232155 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 1815 GMT 23 Oct 85

['Abd al-Fattah al-'Adawi commentary]

[Excerpt] The United States used the envoy it sent to Egypt, Tunisia, and Italy to voice its deep regret over recent events in the region. The United States made it clear that this regret covered the Israeli raid on PLO headquarters and the interception of the Egyptian airliner. It coupled its regret with an expression of readiness to work once again for peace in the Middle East.

Obviously, the United States would not have been forced to feel sorry or openly express its regret had it adopted a position less partial to Israel from the outset.

The Tunis operation, which the U.S. Government regarded as justified retaliation, has been thoroughly condemned. The interception of the Egyptian airliner was also a blow to Egypt's efforts. Egypt is playing a leading role to achieve a comprehensive peace. It was Egypt that succeeded in saving the lives of 400 passengers aboard the Italian ship.

Perhaps what the U.S. Administration should learn from all this is that it should stick to the role of a full partner in the peace process and be partial only to the cause of peace, which this process requires. We hope it was this partiality toward peace that prompted the U.S. Administration to wrap things up in the wake of the events over which it openly expressed its regret. If this is true, the U.S. Administration should act quickly to put things back as they were before Israel's raid on Tunis. At the time, a reasonable amount of progress had been made along the path of peace. A meeting was scheduled between Britain and a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that included two PLO members. Britain had often implied that it hoped the United States would follow its lead and meet with a similar delegation. Had these things happened, those seeking a just and comprehensive regional peace would have made a very important gain.

The PLO's participation remains the principal obstacle to the peace process. There can be no peace without the Palestinians nor can the Palestinians be represented by anyone other than the PLO. This problem was about to be solved by Britain's actual agreement and America's likely agreement to meet with a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation that included PLO members. The question now is whether America's regret at recent events means that the U.S. is ready to get the peace process back where it was before Israel's raid on Tunis. Let us look at things calmly, rationally, and objectively. Israel planned the Tunis raid to halt and block the peace process after it nearly reached the point of open and official acceptance of PLO participation. If this is true, then it is obviously just as true that the Arabs would gain a great deal if America's current conciliatory trend led to the return of the peace process to the point it reached before the Israeli raid. Conversely, the Arabs would lose a great deal if they allowed the present situation to melt in the heat of useless agitation, as Israel would then achieve all the objectives it sought from its Tunis operation.

We call for rationality and objectivity. This means only one thing:

The determination to hold on to the threads of the basic issues, so that no one will be able to divert them from the course we have undertaken; namely, the course for a just and comprehensive peace. This must include recognition of the Palestinian people's national rights. This is one thing. Another thing to note is that when we contemplate the peace process or when we resume this process after a short interruption, it must be clear that Egypt means a just and comprehensive peace. Peace means only that — peace. Egypt's line of peace is very clear and there can be no backing away from it. In other words, Egypt will not accept a peace without the Palestinians, nor will it accept anyone giving up the goal of peace.

This might not need further clarification; however, we will clarify it further. Egypt has concluded peace with Israel. This peace is firm and there will be no retreating from it. However, peace with Egypt is not a complete peace. In order to achieve a comprehensive peace, all the parties concerned must be brought into it. This is what Egypt is working for. If Israel should come to us and say that there is no peace after the peace with Egypt, then we would tell it: No. For peace with Egypt to be consolidated, there must be peace with all the Arabs. If Israel should come to us and say yes to peace with the Arabs, but no to peace with the Palestinians, then we would tell it: But the Palestinians are the crux of the problem. Unless peace includes them, any peace will remain shaky and devoid of any real substance or content.

By the same measure, should the Arabs come to Egypt and say that the path to Arab solidarity passes through cancellation of the Camp David agreement, we would repeat to them what we have already said: Egypt honors its signature, Egypt views this peace as a cornerstone for any other peace, and, as a result of its peace with Israel, Egypt is required by all parties to play a role in expanding the base of peace and achieving complete justice for the Palestinians.

In other words, Egypt's position remains the same: If anyone in the Arab world wants war, then he must go into war without Egypt. If anyone in this world wants to involve peaceful Egypt in operations contrary to peace, then he should cease his efforts because Egypt will not get involved. If any Arab wants to outdo our Arabism in order to drag us toward objectives that are contrary to what we believe is in the interest of this Arabism, then he should realize that it is Egypt's stands throughout history that make it a leader of Arabism and not a mere member of the Arab community.

AL-AKHBAR Addresses Open Letter to 'Arafat

PM231401 [Editorial report] Cairo *AL-AKHBAR* in Arabic on 20 October on pages 1,3, and 4 carries the 7000-word open letter to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat by former Board Chairman and Chief Editor Musa Sabri.

Sabri begins with a lengthy review of Egyptian and Palestinian attitudes since the days of former President Anwar al-Sadat. He praises 'Arafat as a genuine, sincere struggler and symbol of Palestinian struggle, but remonstrates with him over past Palestinian ingratitude to Egypt, despite everything it has done for the Palestinian cause. Referring to 'Arafat, he says at one point "I fully disagree with many of his political stands to the point that I sometimes disavow or at least question his intentions. This is an emotional expression but the right expression is that I have seen in his political conduct, especially towards Egypt, a complete lack of understanding of the peace strategy."

Sabri then discusses the *Achille Lauro* affair which he describes as the "best unexpected gift to Israel" coming after the Israeli raid on Tunisia. Referring to the role played by Muhammad 'Abbas [Abu al-'Abbas] in the matter, Sabri says: "The hijackers said that they wanted Muhammad 'Abbas, or we understood that they wanted Muhammad 'Abbas. Muhammad 'Abbas came to Egypt, and you Abu 'Ammar ['Arafat] know how that was done, and the hijackers responded to him and surrendered, and we stated our position which was that they would be handed over to the PLO in Tunisia for trial. To the whole world that meant that that group followed Muhammad 'Abbas who is a member of the PLO higher committee [as published]. I know, Abu 'Ammar, that you wholeheartedly condemned the operation and declared that it was directed against you. Many people may not believe you but I do and I know that you were sincere in what you said. However, O heroic struggler, it means that there is a complete lack of discipline, taking the Palestinian cause out of your control. That means that any Palestinian leader can rally, say, 30 young men, obtain arms and funds, and claim the right to do anything at any time."

Sabri then comes to the main point of the letter which is his displeasure with statements made by Muhammad 'Abbas and Fatah Central Committee Member Salah Khalaf, alias Abu Iyad. Referring to the latter, Sabri says: "Yesterday, and 2 days earlier, we read that Abu Iyad, the second man in the PLO [as published], told a throng of Palestinians at the PLO headquarters in Baghdad that the PLO never wanted to send the hijackers to Tunisia. He also said: We want an investigation to find out why the hijackers were put on a plane bound for Tunisia. We did not ask for that."

Addressing Abu Iyad, Sabri then says: "I love you despite everything, but, feeling apart, I ask you: 'Did Yasir 'Arafat not say that he would bring the hijackers to trial, and were you, Abu Iyad, a party to any agreement or not?' I do not want to reveal any facts which I know in my journalistic capacity, but I say: Is that Egypt's reward?"

Sabri then cites a statement made by Muhammad 'Abbas to *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* over the telephone from Yugoslavia. He quotes him as saying that the initial political results of what happened are:

"1. It has destroyed every hope of seeing the United States as a mediator on the Middle East crisis because the U.S. Administration has become directly involved in the conflict and has taken a stand against the Palestinian people.

"2. It has shaken the U.S.-Egyptian special relations thus speeding up the downfall of the Camp David treaty."

Sabri then says that Abu al-'Abbas is free to believe what he likes but "he is not at all free to control Egypt's policy or declared that

his aim is to shake the U.S.-Egyptian special relations and speed up the down of Camp David."

Addressing 'Arafat, Sabri then says: "Abu 'Ammar, should that not prompt us to ask if the entire operation was altogether an operation against the Egyptian Government and meant as a blow to U.S.-Egyptian relations?"

Concluding his open letter to 'Arafat, Sabri says: "There is need for reassessment and reorganization. If you want the mili tary struggle to continue and if you have lost hope of achieving a peaceful settlement, then there is a way to be followed. There is also a way if you want to pursue political struggle in search of a settlement that would spare blood and prevent the sacrifice of thousands of victims, but the confusion and the contradictory attitudes here and there neither serve the cause of fedayeen struggle, nor the cause struggle for peace."

Air Force Attacks Ardeshir Oil Fields 24 Oct

JN241314 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1255 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Unscheduled announcement]

[Text] A military spokesman has stated the following:

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. To make those who insist on waging war on Iraq pay the price of aggression every time, to make the Iranian rulers realize that the results entailed by their rash policy will be inevitable loss in every walk of life, to make this stray clique an example to all those who seek to harm the peoples' security, sovereignty, and their social options, and as an expression of our great people's will and in exercise of our legitimate right to crush the enemy and to destroy its economic potential, 10 of our giant Air Force planes carried out a very devastating and surprise raid against the Ardeshir oil fields at 1330 [1030 GMT] today.

At the same time, four other planes carried out a lightning raid on the monitoring station in Khvor Maleh. Our brave hawks of the air reached their targets and dealt them very accurate hits, leaving them in flames and also shattering the dreams of the charlatans in Iran. After efficiently carrying out their mission, they returned safely to base.

This is another glad tiding our brave hawks bring to the great Iraqi people. It is God who grants victory.

[Dated] 24 October 1985

Communique on Bahregan Attack, Enemy Losses

JN231749 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Communique No 1,997 issued by the Armed Forces General Command on 23 October 1985]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave Armed Forces, which are honored to defend Iraqi security and sovereignty and to preserve the nation's glory and dignity, are fully prepared to tear up the aggressive remnants and to nip their evil intentions in the bud.

The following is a roundup of activities for yesterday evening and today:

1. In implementation of the decision of our great people and our wise, victorious leadership to destroy economic installations, which help the regime of charlatanism to continue war, wherever they exist inside Iran and at any time we choose; and in implementation of the pledge made by our heroic Air Force to deprive the backward, suspect Iranian regime of all means of aggression, our Air Force launched a very fierce, devastating, and surprise attack on the Bahregan oil field at 1303 [1003 GMT] today. The valiant eagles of the air managed very bravely and accurately to reach their target and deliver strikes against it with extreme precision. They returned safely and triumphantly to base after carrying out their duty.

This is another piece of good tidings which our eagles bring to the Iraqi people. It is a new loss inflicted on the despotic clique as a result of its irresponsible policies which conflict with all logic. Let the Iranian rulers expect more crushing blows as long as they persist with their evil. It is from God that we derive help and success.

2. A brave unit of our forces in the East Tigris VI Army Corps sector launched a fierce raid on enemy positions before it. In a resolute attack and a swift battle, supported by our brave artillery men, the enemy suffered massive losses, confirmed as follows:

a. More than 70 enemy personnel were either killed or wounded.

b. Eight various positions, placed on rafts, were destroyed.

c. Six personnel shelters were destroyed.

d. Two rafts and one steel bunker placed on another raft were captured.

e. Several weapons and pieces of equipment and hardware, all serviceable, were captured.

Having carried out their mission with high efficiency, the unit members returned safely to base. God bless the men of the VI Army Corp — commanders, officers, and other ranks.

3. Our units in the East Basra III Army Corps sector destroyed three infantry positions and killed all occupants.

4. One enemy truck was hit in the I Army Corps northern sector and one RPG-7 launcher was brought in by our patrols from the no-man's-land in the V Army Corps northern sector.

5. The Iranian ruling clique of tyranny and charlatanism shelled the Mandali suburbs and Al-'Uzayr and its suburbs with long-range artillery.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 23 October 1985

Jordanian Oil Talks With Iraq Begin 24 Oct

JN241203 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1110 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Baghdad, 24 Oct (INA) — Oil talks between Jordan and Iraq began here today. Dr Hisham al-Khatib, Jordanian minister of energy and mineral wealth, chaired the Jordanian side to the talks. The talks dealt with relations of cooperation in the sphere of the oil industry, the exchange of technical expertise, and the establishment of joint oil ventures between Jordan and Iraq.

On the Iraqi side, the talks were attended by 'Abd al-Muhsin 'Alwan and 'Isam 'Abd al-Rahim, oil ministry under secretaries and oil experts. On the Jordanian side the talks were attended by Dr Ibrahim Badran, energy and mineral wealth ministry under secretary, and several Jordanian officials.

Iraqi Oil Minister Qasim Ahmad Taqi met with Dr Hisham al-Khatib today. The two sides discussed ways of expanding

Jordanian-Iraqi cooperation in the oil industry sphere and the implementation of joint ventures.

Dr Hisham al-Khatib, Jordanian minister of energy and mineral wealth, arrived here last night on a visit to Iraq that will last several days.

Saddam Receives Telephone Call From Kuwaiti Amir

JN232003 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1910 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Oct (INA) — President Saddam Husayn received a telephone call from his brother, Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad, this morning. The call dealt with the current situation in the region, stands on current issues in general, and bilateral fraternal relations.

Cooperation Talks With Australia Begin 23 Oct

JN231536 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1405 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Oct (INA) — Meetings of the third session of the Iraqi-Australian committee for economic and technical cooperation began here today. The Iraqi side was led by Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Siddiq 'Abd al-Latif Yunis and the Australian delegation by Trade Minister John Dawkins.

The committee will discuss economic and trade relations between the two countries, scientific and technical cooperation, trade exchange, and the progress the two sides have achieved in implementing minutes of the second session and the obstacles they faced in this regard. The committee formed two subcommittees to define aspects of bilateral cooperation in the fields of trade, economy, finance, science, and technology.

Minister of Agriculture and Agrarian Reform Siddiq 'Abd al-Latif Yunis met with Australian Trade Minister John Dawkins and his delegation and discussed prospects of cooperation in agriculture.

Ramadan Meets Delegation

JN231605 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1450 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Baghdad, 23 Oct (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, RCC member and first deputy prime minister, met with Australian Trade Minister John Dawkins and his delegation here today. The two sides reviewed current bilateral relations and the desire of the two countries to expand and promote them in all fields.

Saddam Receives Sudanese Party Leader Al-Mirghani

JN231632 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] President Saddam Husayn received this morning Muhammad 'Uthman al-Mirghani, leader of the Sudanese Democratic Unionist Party and spiritual leader of the Al-Khatimiyah Islamic sect in Sudan. The meeting was attended by 'Abdallah Fadil, minister of awqaf and religious affairs, and the president's secretary.

Iraq

Iraq-Kuwait Gas Pipeline — *AL-WATAN* has learned that the project to extend a natural gas pipeline from Al-Rumaylah field in southern Iraq to Kuwait will shortly be executed. This line is designed to boost Kuwait's supplies of natural gas. The length of the line will be 250 kms and its diameter is 40 inches. Kuwait is expected to receive about 200 billion cubic feet a day. [Summary] */Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 22 Oct 85 p 1 GF/*

Egypt's Mubarak Arrives in Amman 24 October

JN241026 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1000 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Amman —His Excellency Egyptian President Muhammad Husni Mubarak arrived in Amman today on a short working visit to the kingdom during which he will hold talks with his brother His Majesty King Husayn on several issues of mutual interest, the latest developments in the region, and the situation on the Iraq-Iran front.

His Majesty King Husayn headed those who welcomed the Egyptian president on his arrival at the airport. The Egyptian guest was accorded an official reception. Also present to welcome the Egyptian president were His Highness Crown Prince Hasan; Zayd al-Rifa'i, prime minister; Ahmad al-Lawzi, Senate president; 'Akif al-Fayiz, House of Representatives speaker; 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, minister of court; His Highness Prince Ra'd ibn Zayd, chief chamberlain; Staff General Fathi Abu Talib, Jordanian Armed Forces chief of staff; the ministers; ranking state and military officials; and the Egyptian ambassador in Amman.

The Jordanian and Egyptian national anthems were played and a 21-gun salute was fired to greet the esteemed guest.

President Mubarak is accompanied by an official delegation comprising Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense; 'Ismat 'abd al-Majid, foreign minister; Safwat al-Sharif, information minister; and Dr 'Usamah al-Baz, the director of the president's office for political affairs.

Talks Begin

JN241225 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1200 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Amman —The Jordanian side, headed by His Majesty King Husayn, and the Egyptian side, headed by His Excellency President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, held a meeting at the Al-Nadwah Palace at noon today. The meeting, which was interrupted by a working luncheon, was attended on the Jordanian side by His Highness Crown Prince Hasan, Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i, Court Minister 'Adnan Abu 'Awdah, and Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri. It was attended on the Egyptian Side by Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and defense minister; 'Ismat Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif, and Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the president's office for political affairs.

Energy Minister Departs Amman for Baghdad

JN232016 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1900 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Amman —Dr Hisham al-Khatib, minister of energy and mineral resources, l[e]t Amman for Baghdad today leading a Jordanian delegation [o]n a 3-day visit to Iraq, during which he will hold talks with Iraqi officials on energy issues. The delegation comprises Dr Ibrahim Badran, under secretary at the Ministry of Energy; Dr Ziyad Fariz, secretary general at the Planning Ministry; Dr Fayiz al-Tarawinah, economic counselor at the Prime Ministry; and Eng Ahmad Rashid at the Energy Ministry.

Armed Forces Chief Leaves for United States

JN231630 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic
1600 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Amman — Staff General al-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, left Amman at noon today leading a military delegation on an official visit to the United States lasting several days. The delegation will participate in meetings held at this time every year to discuss Jordan's arms needs. He was seen off at the airport by Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Talib and a number of his aides.

AL-DUSTUR Comments on Peres' Peace Proposals

JN241040 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 24 Oct 85 p 1

[Editorial: "On Peres' Proposals"]

[Text] In his speech before the UN General Assembly, Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres presented a so-called peace plan based on several points that collectively constitute a new print of the same old Israeli ideas that Jordan and all Arabs have already rejected.

It seems that the Israeli prime minister, who found himself besieged as a result of the Arab peace offensive that Jordan effectively led, has evaded the issue instead of facing the facts and, consequently, yielding to the escalating will of the international community which demands a real, just, lasting, and comprehensive peace.

Therefore, what Peres presented at the United Nations can be described as a carefully planned attempt not only to distract attention away from the real peace endeavors but also to endear himself to U.S. public opinion that has been frequently deceived by Israel's claims to be seeking peace and its plans for incomplete solutions for the Middle East crisis.

If the Arabs are indeed meant to be addressed by such an Israeli proposal, then Shim'on Peres should not forget that about 3 years ago the callers for a just, comprehensive peace presented a real peace plan — a plan whose declared principles summarize what is known as the Fes plan that received unanimous Arab backing and ever since then has constituted the base of a comprehensive pan-Arab commitment by all Arab states and the PLO. The Riyadh statement that summed up the Syrian-Jordanian meetings reaffirmed the commitment to this sound pan-Arab trend.

Vis-a-vis such ambigious, incomplete proposals it is natural that the Arabs adhere to their stands that are not only committed to what they unanimously agreed to at their previous summits but also what was given international legitimacy and what was provided for by the UN and UN Security Council resolutions. Moreover, it is natural that the Arabs adhere to their rights which Israel cannot escape full recognition of in the long run.

Forces Seize AL-'AMAL Offices, Detain Director
NC241019 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] AFP reports that the Phalangist forces [Lebanese Forces] last night seized the offices of *AL-'AMAL* newspaper, the mouthpiece of the Phalangist party, and banned its publication until further notice. The Lebanese Forces detained the newspaper director, Joseph Abu Khalil, and took him to an unknown destination.

Bann Paper for 14 Days
NC241144 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] The Lebanese Forces National Security Department has issued the following statement: For several weeks the newspaper *AL-'AMAL* has been publishing questionable reports and writing inflammatory articles designed to sow discord among Christians and obstruct the ongoing political endeavors to end the current crisis in Lebanon. Therefore, it has been decided to ban the publication of *AL-'AMAL* from 24 October until 6 November.

French Draftsman, 3 Others Kidnapped in Beirut
NC241231 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1222 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Four gunmen today stormed the Dar al-Handasah offices on the airport road and kidnapped four employees. They are: Jean Faris, George Khawwam, Claud Gerard, and a French draftsman. Dar al-Handasah threatened to close its offices if those kidnapped are not released.

Al-Jumayyil, Shultz Discuss Mideast Developments
NC232002 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Excerpt] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz visited President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil at the UN Plaza Hotel in New York this evening. Their discussion dealt with political and security developments in Lebanon and the Middle East. President al-Jumayyil raised the issue of the situation in south Lebanon. He also asked for U.S. help in persuading Israel to implement the UN resolutions, particularly Security Council Resolutions 425, 508, and 509.

Birri Meets With PRC, Swedish Envoys 23 Oct
NC232017 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Nabih Birri, minister of state for south Lebanon and reconstruction affairs, received Yu Mengxin, the Chinese ambassador to Lebanon, at his office in Barbur today. They discussed the current situation in Lebanon, particularly events in the south. The PRC ambassador reiterated his country's stand, which calls for Israel's withdrawal from all Lebanese territory out of respect for Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity.

Minister Birri then received the Swedish charge d'affaires and the Swedish Embassy's first secretary. They discussed the general situation and developments in Lebanon.

Hubayqah: Syria 'Seriously Working' To End War
NC240736 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Upon his return from Damascus, Elie Hubayqah, chairman of the Lebanese Forces Executive Committee, made a statement to the newspaper *AL-JUMHURIYAH*, saying: The Syrian role in Lebanon is a political and reconciliatory one. Syria is seriously working to end the war in Lebanon and close the Lebanese dossier. Hubayqah added that the Syrian forces' security role will be confined to the areas where they are currently deployed.

Alluding to other efforts to end the fighting, Hubayqah said that they fall under the jurisdiction of the legitimate security forces which will be supported by the parties concerned with national accord.

In another development, Elie Hubayqah is expected to initiate a series of contacts with Christian functionaries to brief them on the Tripartite Committee's talks and the meetings that the Lebanese Forces' delegation held in Damascus. Hubayqah will also update the Christian functionaries on the progress made toward ending the crisis, initiating national accord, and starting the march toward peace in Lebanon. In this regard, Hubayqah will acquaint former President Sulayman Franjiyah with all the details within the next 48 hours. The Hubayqah-Franjiyah meeting falls within the context of the ongoing communication and understanding between them.

Hubayqah will also talk with the patriarchs and ranking Christian men of religion. He is expected to invite some deputies and functionaries of the various Christian sects to brief them on the tripartite negotiations and the new developments on the road to accord and salvation. He said that the Lebanese Forces are playing a principal role in this regard.

Hubayqah on Possible Meeting with Birri, Junblatt
NC231333 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Elie Hubayqah, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Lebanese Forces, today made a statement on the outcome of his talks in Damascus. He said:

[Begin recording] Today's talks were meant to complement those we had started. We reviewed the discussions that the representatives of the Lebanese Forces and the National Union Front held within the framework of the tripartite committee meeting. We discussed the ideas that were aired during these talks and we modified some issues. The process is continuing.

[Unidentified reporter] Are there plans for a tripartite meeting between you, Junblatt, and Birri?

[Hubayqah] Yes, there are. Such a meeting will take place after the representatives of the parties concerned formulate all their ideas. A full dossier will then be ready. The talks will be held on the basis of this dossier, and therefore there will be no need for debate during the meeting. In other words, the current sessions are preparing the framework for the three leaders' meeting.

[Reporter] When do you expect to pay your third visit to Damascus?

[Hubayqah] When we receive an invitation. [end recording]

Hizballah, Amal Leaders Meet at Iranian Embassy
NC231837 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1715 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] A meeting was held at the Iranian Embassy in Beirut yesterday in the presence of Iranian Charge d'Affaires Mahmud Nurani. The meeting was attended by Hizballah and Amal Movement leaders. The discussion dealt with the need for unity to confront the seditions being planned against Muslims in Beirut and Sidon, and the need to avoid peripheral battles.

Hizballah Role in Kidnapping of Frenchmen Denied
NC231951 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] An official source in the Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] has denied a report published by a French newspaper citing PSP leader Walid Junblatt on the question of the kidnapped Frenchmen. The source said that Junblatt has in no way implicated any party or organization in this issue. Junblatt views such reports as an attempt to drive a wedge between the PSP and Hizballah, and that prompted this clarification.

Amal, Palestinians Clash in Sabra, Shatila
NC241127 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic
1115 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Clashes between Amal and the Palestinians are currently taking place at the entrances to the Sabra and Shatila camps. The Burj al-Barajinah camp is also under gunfire from a nearby mosque.

A state of alert prevails in the Palestinian camps. The security forces have withdrawn from their posts and gathered in the nursing home, Al-Dana gas station, and Hamadah Palace.

Beirut, Mountain Areas, Southern Area Under Fire
NC231438 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain
in Arabic to Lebanon 1400 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Machine-gun fire is being directed at Ra's al-Nab' from Sodeco and the cemetery. Meanwhile, 'Aytat and Kayfun in the mountain area are coming under medium-caliber machine gun fire from the hotels area and Qal'at al-Hisn. Earlier, Al-Shuywayfat was subjected to machine gun fire from the Sahyun building and Villa No 2.

In the south, there is tension on the Kafr Falus, Lib'a, and 'Ayn al-Mir combat lines following attacks initiated by Lahd's militia at noon today. These later developed into clashes between the militia and Popular Liberation Army forces in which rockets and machine guns were used.

Resistance Attacks, Clashes With Lahd Forces
NC231922 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic
1630 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] According to reports from Sidon, the situation there erupted violently at 1700 today. Our correspondent reported that artillery and rocket exchanges between positions held by the Popular Liberation Army's Martyr Ma'ruf Sa'd Forces and those held by agent Lahd militia have intensified on the 'Ayn al-Mir, Lib'a, and Kafr Falus combat lines. Explosions can be clearly heard in east Sidon. Both sides are using various types of weapons. Approximately 2 hours ago, the Lebanese national resistance's Holy Saint Forces of the martyr Al-Hayy group fired two 107-mm rockets at the Jewish settlement of (Zarziq) located on the border. Columns of smoke were seen billowing from the settlement. Enemy forces carried out a wide-scale search operation after the attack in the area adjacent to the settlement.

According to reports from the south, an Israeli occupation forces patrol opened automatic weapons fire at UNIFIL forces in Al-Qantarh. The attack came after four patrol members had been wounded when they tried to defuse an explosive charge last Sunday evening.

Meanwhile, the Hasbayya-al-Dhunaybah crossing was closed to pedestrians and vehicles in both directions today without any clear reason being given.

The Lebanese National Resistance Front has issued a statement in which it said that the martyrs Hazim and Husayn Ballut Group attacked a position held by agent Lahd forces near Bayt Lif at approximately 0330 today. This position consisted of three buildings used as sleeping quarters for the soldiers. The group fired an RPG-7 at one of the buildings, which initiated a clash involving the use of machine guns and rockets. During the 10-minute clash, two 12.7 machine guns belonging to the Lahd forces were silenced. Personnel manning this position searched the area for the attackers until 0600 today.

Three ASL Centers Attacked; No Casualties
JN240650 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope
in Arabic 0600 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] The army of southern Lebanon [ASL] centers in Al-'Ayshiyah, Yatar, and 'Ayn Ibil have been attacked by Katyushas and RPG's. The elements of these centers returned fire using appropriate weapons. No casualties were reported.

Peres Meets With Foreign Leaders in New York

Meets Shevardnadze

TA240523 Jerusalem: Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Prime Minister Peres met in New York last night with the Soviet foreign minister, Eduard Shevardnadze. They agreed to meet again, but did not specify any time, as we hear in this report from Jonathan Schechter in New York.

[Begin Schechter recording] It was an impromptu meeting lasting about 25 minutes. The prime minister met with Shevardnadze at a reception for visiting heads of state given by President Reagan here in New York. Details are still sketchy but, according to sources, the two mainly discussed the upcoming summit meeting between President Reagan and Soviet leader Gorbachev. They spoke of the possibility of reestablishing diplomatic relations, and they also discussed the Jewish community of Soviet Georgia where Shevardnadze had been a Communist Party leader.

Peres brought up the topic of aliyah from the Soviet Union, but at that point, Soviet Ambassador Dobrynin joined the conversation and reminded the prime minister that there are many Soviet Jews who drop out along the way to Israel. The implication seemed to be that this represented a possible impediment to increased aliyah. Nothing was reportedly resolved during their meeting except that Peres and Shevardnadze spoke about the possibility of another meeting to take place in the future, but they did not specify a date. It is not expected to happen during this visit because of a small degree of overlap in their tight schedules here in New York. In fact, Peres had repeatedly expressed doubts that he would be able to meet with the Soviet foreign minister at all this week, but sources stressed, this was not because Israel or the Soviet Union did not want the meeting to take place.

Among other world leaders with whom Prime Minister Peres talked at last night's reception were Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi and U.S. President Reagan. The President praised Prime Minister Peres' speech to the United Nations, calling it outstanding. [end recording]

Talks With Thatcher

TA241148 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 24 Oct 85 p 3

[Report from New York by Ilan Kfir and Avi Gan'or]

[Excerpt] "I will not agree to meet with Yasir 'Arafat, even if he declares that he has forsaken terrorism." This is what Prime Minister Shim'on Peres told the British prime minister in New York yesterday. Thatcher asked Peres whether he would agree to meet with 'Arafat and the PLO were they to declare their recognition of the State of Israel. Peres replied that he does not believe such a thing would happen, and that the PLO without terrorism is not the PLO.

Peres added: " 'Arafat is not only the State of Israel's problem; rather, he is mainly the Palestinians' problem. He is causing the Palestinian people disaster and tragedy."

The prime minister said he is willing to meet with Palestinian representatives who are not identified with terrorism, as part of a Jordanian delegation for negotiations. Peres hinted that Israel would not scrutinize the biographies of the Palestinians who would participate in such a delegation on condition that they are not identified with the PLO. Peres sharply criticized Britain for legitimizing the PLO, and for its supply of modern weapons to Saudi Arabia, a country that is in confrontation with Israel.

Margaret Thatcher said: "I do not regret the invitation to the PLO representatives to hold a meeting in London, just as I do not regret the cancellation of that meeting." Thatcher described Husayn as a personal friend and a friend of the British people, pointing out that he is seeking peace.

[Tel Aviv *HA'ARETZ* in Hebrew on 24 October carries an exclusive report by New York correspondent Shlomo Shamir which states that "A complete blackout was imposed on the meeting between British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and Prime Minister Shim'on Peres held yesterday afternoon at Thatcher's hotel. In reply to a question posed by the *HA'ARETZ* correspondent, the prime minister said that Thatcher had requested that the contents of the talk between them not be publicized, and that he is granting her request. The *HA'ARETZ* correspondent has learned that the talk revolved around one issue only: the Middle East peace process."]

Arms Reviewed With Kohl

TA231726 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] The prime minister has said that an international aegis for the Israeli-Jordanian negotiations cannot replace direct talks, but could strengthen and support them. The prime minister was speaking to German Chancellor Helmut Kohl in New York. He reiterated Israel's objection to the supply of German arms to Arab countries. The two men decided to set up a special binational technological development fund and also agreed in principle to a visit to the FRG by the prime minister in the near future. Our correspondent Razi Barqay says that Mr Peres is currently in session with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Poland Announces Tel Aviv Bank To Open Visa Section

TA231936 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Poland has announced that a visa section will open in the Polish Bank in Tel Aviv in order to facilitate the procedure for Israelis to obtain entry visas. A department that will issue Israeli visas will open in the Netherlands Embassy in Warsaw.

Jerzy Urban, the spokesman for the Polish Government, reported this in Warsaw, adding that his country is not contemplating establishing diplomatic relations with Israel or changing its Middle East policy.

Peres Greets Husayn Positive Reaction to Proposal

TA240728 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 24 Oct 85 pp 1, 2

["Exclusive" report from U.S.-based correspondent Amir Oren]

[Excerpt] New York — After midnight, Prime Minister Shim'on Peres welcomed the report that Jordan's King Husayn reacted positively to his initiative on negotiations with Jordan.

In a talk with *DAVAR*, which will be published in full tomorrow, Peres said that if the report, according to which Husayn declared in an interview to *THE NEW YORK TIMES* that Peres' initiative is a step in the right direction — although Husayn also announced that he would adhere to the agreement he signed with Yasir 'Arafat in February this year, but which will be reevaluated by Jordan — is true, then Israel should regard this as "a certain positive response."

Peres said that during his meeting today with Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy he expects to receive a detailed report. He added that Israel's opening position in negotiations with Jordan would be the Camp David autonomy plan, pointing out that there is no point talking about Israel's future positions in later stages of negotiations.

The prime minister also said that some movement has begun in the Israel-Jordan-PLO triangle and, although one cannot yet talk about an Israel-Jordan axis, the PLO is now facing the two countries. Peres refused to comment on the compromise reached in Congress, according to which the Jordanian arms deal will be postponed until the spring.

On Possible Rejection

TA231942 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Interview with Prime Minister Shim'on Peres by Elimelekh Ram in New York on 23 October — recorded]

[Text] [Ram] I would like you to describe a certain scenario: If Husayn turns down your initiative, what will happen in the Middle East?

[Peres] At first, nothing will happen, but a deterioration will begin and a different setup will take shape. A coalition which will head toward a confrontation will be created, and the deterioration will be manifest first in words and later in harsher ways. This in fact is what we are trying to prevent. This Arab coalition will seek alternatives to peace.

[Ram] And is war that alternative to peace?

[Peres] The alternative to peace is a state of war which, unavoidably, can also take the form of a war that may break out some day.

[Ram] In other words, in such an event you can find no reason for optimism?

[Peres] I would not suggest that anyone cease being optimistic; I only think that it is necessary to take action toward achieving peace and exhaust all the possibilities. I believe that beyond any partisan differences, this is our duty. I think it is impossible to live only by the sword, even though our sword is sharp and good. Both things should be done simultaneously: maintain our security situation as warranted and also seek peace and avoid war for future generations.

[Ram] Should Husayn accept your initiative in principle and negotiations start, what will happen in regard to peace with other countries?

[Peres] I do not believe that it is possible to make peace with everyone at the same time. If there is indeed peace with Egypt, the way things stand now, and it is not the most perfect or best peace, it is still preferable to war. If indeed we solve the disputed issues between ourselves and Jordan, then we will think. We do not have time. [sentence as heard] However, I believe this is the major move in this entire business. The major problem is really the framework of relations between us and Jordan, or Israel and the Palestinians.

Rabin: Jordan Cannot Sever Ties With 'Arafat

TA231356 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1343 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] The defense minister said this afternoon that the prime minister's suggestions for a political move with Jordan do not digress from the Cabinet's policy. However, Minister Rabin said he was not optimistic in regard to the chances that Jordan would respond favorably to those proposals:

[Begin Rabin recording] I simply fear that at the moment Jordan is incapable of severing its ties with 'Arafat, and we will not sit down at the negotiating table with him. Yesterday, when I heard through the media, which admittedly is not an intelligence source, about the content of the Jordanian and Syrian prime ministers' talks, I started to worry. [end recording]

Our correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that in a speech delivered before a forum of the Jerusalem economic club members, the defense minister said that if Jordan is persuaded by Syria to call for an international conference under UN auspices, this process would affect Egypt and would endanger what has so far been achieved between Israel and Egypt.

Arens Says Ties With Egypt Should Be Reassessed

TA231234 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Acting Foreign Minister Moshe Arens believes that our ties with Egypt should be reassessed. Cairo, he stressed, is violating many clauses in the peace accords. The most serious violations are the return of the Egyptian ambassador to Cairo and the anti-Israel propaganda and incitement campaign in the media. Minister Arens believes that the violations should not be forgiven, but an effort should be made to improve relations. He was replying to a query by Knesset Member [MK] Yuval

Ne'eman of the Tehiya. MK Ne'eman demanded that the ambassador be returned to Israel and that all handling of the Tabah issue be halted. The coalition struck the proposal off the agenda.

Peres on Peace Process, Syria-Jordan Rapprochement

TA241058 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 24 Oct 85 p 8

[Report by Ran Dagoni, 'Oded Granot, Shefi Gabay, and Avino'am Bar-Yosef]

[Excerpt] In an interview to *MA'ARIV*, Peres said that if the peace process does not begin now, things will begin to move in the opposite direction, and an atmosphere of belligerency will develop. The prime minister emphasized that he insists that direct negotiations are the right way to attain peace. Notwithstanding, he noted: "I am not opposed to international sponsorship, such as the Security Council. There are those who are proposing a 'premiere' (an opening). I place the emphasis on removing the obstacle called the PLO."

Peres added that Israel's opening proposal in the negotiations would be the autonomy plan, but that Israel would be prepared to listen to proposals from the other sides. "The Camp David accords are not a precondition," the prime minister said.

Peres noted that he does not intend to hold a vote of confidence in the government when he returns to Israel. "I am not getting excited about everything that is said in Israel," he said. "I am sure that some of the critics have not even read the complete version of my speech at the United Nations."

The prime minister reiterated his opposition to including the PLO in negotiations, although in a news conference 2 days ago he said: "It does not matter who has been a terrorist, but who is a terrorist."

In reply to a question about the rapprochement between Syria and Jordan, Mr Peres said: "In my opinion, improved relations between Syria and Jordan are preferable to supplying arms to Jordan so that it can defend itself against Syria." As for the "price" Israel would be prepared to pay for renewed relations with the Soviet Union, Peres said: "We would pay by dropping Israel's objection to Soviet participation in constructive diplomatic moves in the Middle East — not necessarily in an international conference."

Austrian TV Interviews Peres on PLO, Peace Process

AU231348 Vienna Television Service in German 1825 GMT 22 Oct 85

[Interview given by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres to Austrian television reporter Hans Benedict "directly before his departure to the UN General Assembly in New York;" date and place not given — recorded in English with German translation superimposed]

[Text][Benedict] If Yasir 'Arafat, for reasons we might not know yet, offers you the recognition of Israel, as the State Department is expecting, if he says I hereby recognize the existence of the state of Israel, how would you react?

[Peres] You are asking me what would happen if the PLO were to change its course? I am asking you in turn: Can they do it? Will they do it? They must come to realize that they are eliminating themselves if they continue to act as they have acted up to now; if they believe that they can get somewhere with their present methods, they will continue to use them.

[Benedict] Is that supposed to be the answer to my question?

[Peres] My answer is clear. My answer is that there are Palestinians who have dissociated themselves from terrorism. They represent the people. We are ready to negotiate with them without any preconditions. We are not digging in their past.

[Benedict] And would their not having any ties with the PLO be the criterion qualifying them for talking with Israel?

[Peres] Yes, yes, provided that they do not belong to an organization that is now, at this particular time, continuing with the business of killing and lying.

[Benedict] During the election campaign you more or less promised a liberalization in the occupied territories — less occupation pressure, less of a psychological burden on the Palestinians. Instead, you have resorted to much tougher methods; and then came a set of rules and regulations, deportations, detention without trials. This is certainly the opposite of what you had announced when you became prime minister.

[Peres] I said that if we should come to power we would alter the settlement policy, and we did alter it. Had you interviewed me then, a year ago, you would have asked continually about the settlement policy, but now you do not ask. Why? Because we have decided to change the quality of life on the West Bank and in the Gaza Strip. We took liberalization measures to improve the economic situation, to allow a greater freedom of movement, and then came this absolutely fantastic wave of terror that forced us to abandon the policy that we prefer. I told them, Kreisky and others, if it were really true that all Palestinians are thinking along the same lines as the PLO, why then does the PLO not let the Palestinians negotiate with us? They are mayors and other elected representatives in the cities, and if they are allegedly fully in accord with the PLO, why would they, as elected representatives of the Palestinians, who are acceptable to us, not be permitted to negotiate with us?

[Benedict] You said you were ready for peace negotiations under international protection, under the patronage of the big powers in the UN Security Council. Thus you have for the first time invited the Soviet Union to the Middle East conference table. Do you still stand by that proposal?

[Peres] I have said, and I repeat, that if the Soviet Union were to resume diplomatic relations with Israel, the Soviet Union would be able, from our point of view, to play a role in the diplomacy of peace-making in the Middle East.

[Benedict] Thus you have, so to speak, booked a seat at the negotiating table for the Soviet Union?

[Peres] Yes, let us permit them to do so. They are not our enemies. It was they who broke off relations with us. They adopted an extremely one-sided position, extremely one-sided. They have adopted the most extreme Arab position. So what business would they have had in any negotiations in the past? If they will change, we shall recognize the change.

[Benedict] But in this manner you are telling the Soviets: Friends, you are welcome if you drop all your friends in the Middle East.

[Peres] If they want to take part in negotiations, they must get themselves in the middle, be objective.

[Benedict] But I believe this question also goes primarily for King Husayn. If Husayn breaks with the PLO and tells 'Arafat: Sorry, but I have to talk with the Israelis, and I have to do it without you because it will not work with you — then he has a revolution. To Husayn this certainly is a matter of surviving.

[Peres] If I were the king I would simply tell the PLO: Renounce terror, or send representatives who have nothing to do with it. The very least must be that one cannot at the same time talk and kill. You are either talking or killing.

[Benedict] What was actually the objective of your air raid on the PLO headquarters in Tunis?

[Peres] A radio communications center, the headquarters of Force 17, which as you know is committing acts of terrorism, and the department of the PLO that deals with terror. And, you know they themselves did not watch what they were saying: They declared that the casualties included 10 prisoners. This means that the PLO has a prison of its own there and its own court of justice, and then the PLO published the list of casualties. It included four colonels of Force 17 — or what they call colonels — and six majors. I mean, what is it?

[Benedict] There have been reports in Israel that the air raid was not designed to kill Yasir 'Arafat, but that it was meant to be a demonstration, showing what your Air Force, the so-called long arm of Israel, can do.

[Peres] Israel is not engaged in any terrorism against individual persons.

[Benedict] Do you want 'Arafat alive or dead?

[Peres] We do not want any terrorism against individual persons. 'Arafat was not our target, nor anybody else.

[Benedict] Mr Prime Minister, assuming there is a great international change of position vis-a-vis the PLO. What comes next?

[Peres] You cannot have peace without a first step toward peace. The first step is the scenario for direct negotiations. And that is what we are now trying to look for.

[Benedict] And the objective of the negotiations? A revised autonomy, an interim solution with a view to long-term aims, such as for example the Reagan plan of a Jordanian-Palestinian federation?

[Peres] Reagan's plan has two steps; do not forget that. The first step also provides for self-government and autonomy. Personally, I do not think that we will achieve the solution in a single leap but will have to proceed step by step. But everything has to go on the negotiating table. We shall see. I believe there are maybe some solutions that nobody can foresee today. If you have two negotiating parties, and each side has its own solution, then this does not result in an either-or, but will lead to a third solution that might have occurred to neither of the parties.

Dignitaries From Territories to Amman For Talks

TA231945 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Arab dignitaries from East Jerusalem and the territories are about to leave for consultations in Amman. Among those departing for consultations in Amman with the PLO leadership and the Jordanian Administration are Bethlehem Mayor Ilyas Frayj and Hanna Sanyurah, who were chosen by the PLO to participate in the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Shamir Speaks on EEC, Examines Peres UN Address

TA231003 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Telephone interview with Vice Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, who is currently in Luxembourg, by program moderator Mikha Friedman — live]

[Excerpt] [Friedman] Mr Shamir, do you have any good news on Italy possibly relaxing its stand, and on good conditions for our future exports to the EEC?

[Shamir] Some degree of flexibility is evident. Yesterday, in fact, decisions favorable to us began to form, but the countries did not manage to conclude and finalize their decisions. The heads of the Council of Ministers decided to convene meetings on Friday and Saturday, and then to conclude the matter that concerns us.

According to what everyone tells me, the conclusion will be positive in terms of our concerns; that is, they will give us the guarantees that will allow the export of agricultural products to Europe to continue. The matter was not an easy one because Italy and Greece objected to the advantages they claim we will derive. But, because the remaining eight members of the EEC were steadfast in their support of us, and following several of our persuasive talks, I believe that we will more or less achieve what we desire.

[Friedman] Well, at least there are definite signs of good news emerging on that subject. Now, let us move on to issues on the agenda which are more pressing, at least to some people here. If you were currently prime minister, would you deliver an address

similar to the one Shim'on Peres gave at the United Nations, or would your remarks sound different there in New York?

[Shamir] I think that in such a case, there would have been a considerable change in the style and formulation of the address. Basically, and I already said this in my address at the United Nations, we are in favor of direct negotiations with Jordan without any preconditions. I would not emphasize the various possibilities of an international conference or an international forum because Israel's position is steadfast: We are opposed to an international conference on the Middle East which is what the Arabs are demanding and want. The prime minister's remarks and allusions to some international forum are not operational statements, and, as far as I understand, do not refer to holding an international conference which might hinder Israel's interests. Nevertheless, the matter should be carefully examined. The formulation of the proposal must also be carefully examined. We also need to talk with the prime minister on the meaning of the proposals. In any event, if the prime minister meant that, practically speaking, reference is to direct negotiations with Jordan alone, and all the rest about a forum and so on is aimed more at making an impression or creating an atmosphere which says: Look here, we are also taking other demands into consideration, but that there is absolutely no acceptance of an international conference that would discuss and decide on matters concerning us, then the differences of opinion would only revolve around formulation, style, and the like.

Israeli Policy Unchanged

TA232015 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2000 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says that even following the prime minister's statements in the United States, Israel's basic stands on relations with our neighbors have not changed. Any exacerbation of the internal debate might help our rivals and enemies. Regarding Minister Moda'i's announcement that from now on he will channel funds to the settlements, Shamir said he would have preferred that the finance minister had done so before the prime minister's address to the UN General Assembly. Minister Shamir returned to Israel this evening from a visit to Europe, where he met with EEC foreign ministers.

No Coalition Crisis

TA240625 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir says he sees nothing in recent speeches by Prime Minister Peres to cause a crisis in the coalition. He was speaking on his return last night from Luxembourg where he had been meeting foreign ministers of the EC. Reporter Tony Gadot was at the airport:

[Begin recording] [Gadot] Returning from Luxembourg, Yitzhaq Shamir said that there is no contradiction between Prime Minister Peres' UN speech and agreed government policy.

[Shamir] Well, I didn't have the contents of Mr Peres' speech at the United Nations. I was told that the speech will be pronounced in the spirit of the last speeches of Mr Peres in the Knesset. I don't see any new positions in this speech of the prime minister at the United Nations.

[Gadot] Shamir also made his own view known.

[Shamir] I am very interested in the progress of the peace process in our area. I would like to get the readiness of King Husayn to start direct negotiations with Israel. Well, so far there is no answer from him. There are some signs, negative and others, but we have time and will wait and see what is going to happen in the region.

[Gadot] But he said any international conference must have its guidelines strictly defined.

[Shamir] We are opposed to any international conference which will have the right to decide about the future of Eretz Yisra'el.

[Gadot] Although Shamir does not expect a coalition crisis, he did say that Peres' visit to the United States must be thoroughly discussed before either he or the Cabinet can give him a vote of confidence.

On his own visit to Luxembourg, Shamir said that the EEC fully understands Israel's concerns over the entry of Spain to the EEC, and is satisfied that Israel's agricultural exports to Europe will not be damaged. [end recording]

Sharon on Peres Proposal, Raiding PLO in Jordan

TA240853 [Editorial Report] Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew at 1941 GMT on 23 October carries a live 42-minute interview with Industry and Trade Minister Ari'el Sharon within the framework of the weekly "Moqed" program. The interview is conducted by political correspondent Yoram Ronen and Knesset correspondent Ya'aqov Ahime'ir, and is moderated by Nisim Mish'al.

Asked to elaborate on his reported criticism of Prime Minister Shim'on Peres for failing to report to the Inner Cabinet on his proposed initiative for peace with Jordan, Sharon maintains that "contacts that were kept secret from the Cabinet have been going on for many long months" and set off a certain chain of events. These contacts, according to Sharon, involved Egypt, Jordan, the Palestinians, and the United States, and the prime minister wants to reap the benefits of these contacts without holding a Cabinet debate on them. This circumvention is grave in any government, but even more so in a national unity government that incorporates the different views of the different political blocs that comprise it, and particularly since the matter touches upon Israel's security. Sharon maintains that Peres' UN speech contained elements "not fully in line with the government's basic guidelines," namely the acceptance of an international aegis for contacts with Jordan. He says he would not have come out against Peres' speech — particularly since the prime minister is out of the country — if it were not for the dangers that he can foresee arising from it. He indicates that his objections are based on the past record of opposition to a forced arrangement by all previous governments, which learned their lesson from history, and on the truism that

"everything that is said constitutes a starting point." This means that "in order to bring the parties' positions closer," should Jordan accept the challenge and the offer, "Israel will be forced to take additional steps, thereby endangering its positions, and I believe also jeopardizing its security." Sharon declares that his opinion could be taken to be "sincere and patriotic," and that although he pointed out dangers inherent in the offer, he is not challenging the prime minister's authority, and consequently is under no obligation to resign.

Asked whether he thought Shim'on Peres had coordinated his positions with King Husayn beforehand, Sharon replied that he does not know and that all the information he has about the alleged meeting between the premier and the monarch "is only from the media." He explains that he agrees that secret contacts are a legitimate means, but only "up to the moment when plans begin to be discussed," at which point "the government must know."

Sharon denies charges that this attack is aimed at foiling the rotation, saying that not only was he one of the founders of the national unity government, he furthermore believes it should continue to function. As for how the Likud will react to Peres' initiative, "what will determine this position will be the national interest." Asked where he draws the line on continued participation in the unity government, Sharon replies that "harm to Israel's security" might be reason enough for the Likud to withdraw from the coalition.

Sharon notes that people have become so used to terrorist attacks, they appear to be blase although, in fact, "we are facing a tidal wave of terrorism" which "originates mainly from Jordan." Thus, Sharon maintains, although he favors negotiations with Jordan and sees peace as a noble and desirable cause, he thinks that "we not only have the right, but actually the duty, to demand that King Husayn remove the terrorist commands from Jordan." This, Sharon states, has been his suggestion for conditions for negotiations. Sharon says that the best way to handle these headquarters would be for Husayn to "simply remove the terrorist commands, which are only a short distance away from his palace. But I think they should also be attacked." He reaffirms that "it is absolutely impossible to accept a situation in which these commands exist while they try to conduct negotiations with us, or alternatively in which we seek negotiations without demanding the removal of the terrorist commands." He regrets the omission of this demand from Peres' UN speech and discussions in the United States, and asks: "What is too far-fetched or unreasonable about this demand?" He claims he takes a similarly "grave view of the fact that Jordan is about to receive first-rate sophisticated arms that would totally change our predicament here," and says that rather than promising arms in return for Husayn's acceptance of negotiations, the position should be that we would be prepared to enter negotiations with him only on condition that he is given no arms. "It is necessary," Sharon states, "to make sure that Jordan does not receive the arms."

Because changes constantly occur in the Middle East — in the form of Egypt's unexpected "cynical" reaction to the murders in Ra's al-Burqa' or the unforeseen meeting between Syrian and Jordanian representatives or delegates from Syria and Iraq — Sharon believes "we must be cautious" and beware of getting embroiled in a war. At the same time, he says, "we must also be very careful when discussing peace," and must seek peace that "will endure for as long as possible and will present the least danger to us." Sharon notes that in his opinion "every contact between enemies in the Arab world, and any rapprochement between them, involves danger to Israel." Thus, caution must be exercised, speedy solutions should be avoided, and the support of world public opinion should not be the main objective.

Peres Responds

TA241020 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 24 Oct 85 p 2

[Report by Ilan Kfir]

[Text]"The Israeli peace initiative has received positive responses from President Reagan and various leaders worldwide who have congratulated me on this step. To my surprise, the only criticism of the peace move is emanating from the home front. I never understand the Likud ministers' criticism. The national unity government has basic guidelines, and I am operating in line with them, without any deviations." This was said last night by Prime Minister Shim'on Peres in a special interview given to *HADA SHOT*.

Responding to remarks made by Minister Ari'el Sharon on the "Moqed" television interview program, Peres said: "His remarks do not deserve a response. There is no point in my getting involved with him. In my speech at the United Nations, and in all my talks with state leaders during my visit in the United States, I never once mentioned anything about territorial compromise or any concessions on the part of Israel. I only repeated that Israel is looking toward peace and toward direct negotiations with Jordan."

The prime minister expressed satisfaction over Husayn's remarks in an interview given to *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, according to which he considers the Israeli prime minister's peace initiative a positive move. However, Peres noted: "I will respond to Husayn's remarks only after I have read the text. I believe that the peace process with Jordan will develop in the wake of the peace initiative which we have begun during my visit in the United States. I regard the positive Egyptian reaction and the reaction of the United States and international community to the Israeli move as most encouraging."

The prime minister concludes his visit to the United States this evening. Next, he will fly to Paris, where he will hold talks with French President Francois Mitterrand.

23 Oct Press on Reaction to Peres Speech in UN

Likud Criticism Viewed

TA231024 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0430 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpts] *HA'ARETZ* says that unlike his two predecessors, the current prime minister projects an image of credibility when he

calls on King Husayn to join the negotiations on peace between him and us. Except for ruling out the PLO as a party to negotiations, Shim'on Peres revealed flexibility in all his proposals, including the nature of the international auspices which the Jordanian monarch seeks. International recognition of the sincerity of Israel's desire for peace is an achievement, the value of which the Likud should have conceded. All the time they were in power on their own, they did not succeed in achieving this. Nevertheless, the paper adds, it is still unclear whether the Jordanian king will react positively to the prime minister's address, and this alone will determine Shim'on Peres' success in significantly promoting the peace process, and not just improving Israel's image.

HATZOFE writes that the criticism leveled against the prime minister while he is still on his official mission abroad is uncalled for and might cause political damage. Practical policy will be determined by the whole government and, once the prime minister returns home, the Likud ministers will certainly raise their reservations in the appropriate forum. For the time being, the prime minister's address at the United Nations General Assembly should be regarded as a political move that leaves a great deal of maneuvering room for the time when things reach a practical stage. Still, various remarks which the prime minister made during his visit necessitate clarifications within the government which will expose the differences in approach between the Alignment and the Likud on the question of negotiations with Jordan. It appears that in the near future, the unity government will have to consolidate its policy on this fundamental question.

DAVAR says there is no logical basis to the uproar which has engulfed the cool and restrained response of Minister Arens who examined Peres' remarks thoroughly and did not detect any deviation from the government's basic guidelines. However, the damage resulting from the Likud ministers' criticism has been caused, both in internal and external arenas. As far as the external damage is concerned, it now appears that the impossibility of including the PLO in direct talks will deter King Husayn from beginning the talks. In such a case, the blame would fall on him alone. However, the Likud experts, the paper adds, in expressing their fright in the face of the danger of peace, are making sure that Israel will also be blamed. There is no point in wasting words on the internal aspect of the bleak show that is recurring. It is not words that are necessary, but conclusions.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that the differences of opinion within the Likud on the prime minister's address at the United Nations General Assembly originate from the internal struggle within that party, but this cannot blur the basic fact that the right-wing has entered a confrontation with the prime minister and his party on the actual negotiations with Jordan. Henceforth, the prime minister and his party will be tested regarding the extent to which they adhere with determination to their positions, even as far as bringing about the disbanding of the government, in which the partnership has recently become a serious obstacle to achieving peace.

THE JERUSALEM POST writes that the national unity government is based on the premise that the present borders remain unchanged, but it is also based on agreement to pursue a dialogue with Jordan. If Messrs Sharon, Levi, and company wish to threaten to break up the government over Mr Peres' pursuit of such a dialogue, the prime minister should not be deterred. On the contrary, he should expose their lies. If he does this, he will enjoy the tacit support of Mr Shamir and Mr Arens who, according to the paper, will not allow their flatulent party colleagues endanger the prospects of rotation. But more important, he must, for the nation's sake, try to seize any opportunity for getting the negotiations process started. In short, he must translate the image of statesmanship he displayed at the United Nations into real leadership at home. If, the paper adds, that means exposing the opportunistic sputtering of Messrs Sharon, Levi, and Moda'i for what it is, so be it.

Further on Coalition Reaction

TA231116 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0900 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Review of midday press editorials]

[Text] Both papers deal with the peace initiative which the prime minister presented at the United Nations, and with the reactions to it in the coalition.

MA'ARIV says that Peres' speech had a moderate tone and contained a well-thought-out diplomatic tactic, but did not include a change in principle. The proposals' test lies in King Husayn's reaction. The monarch knows that Peres cannot advance beyond the limit set by the Likud. Thus, there is no point at the moment in entering a strident argument among ourselves.

YEDI'OT AHARONOT asks why the Likud ministers did not wait to publicize their opinions at least until they determined them among themselves. They could have at least waited until Peres or Vice Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir returned to Israel. The whole thing is particularly amazing in view of the fact that a consolidated opinion has still not been formed.

Amal, ASL Capture Terrorist Squads in S. Lebanon

TA240536 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew
0500 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Three squads of Palestinian terrorists were caught in southern Lebanon this week while they were making their way to perpetrate terrorist attacks in the security strip. Amal guards in Al-Nabatiyah captured two squads who were found in the possession of katyusha rockets. A patrol of the army of southern Lebanon [ASL] captured another squad south of Jazzin.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that Hizballah clergymen in the south are trying to reorganize resistance against the IDF and the ASL. A few days ago a meeting was held in the Al-Zahrani area in which the clergymen promised they would generously finance any anti-Israeli activities carried out under the guidance of the front they are organizing.

ASL Sources Complain About UNIFIL Harassment

TA240828 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 24 Oct 85 p 2

[Report by Menahem Horowitz]

[Text] Metulla — Sources in the South Lebanon Army [SLA] yesterday complained of numerous attempts by UNIFIL to restrict their movement and even to attack them. The sources especially blamed Norwegian soldiers of the contingent, calling them "very nervous."

The Norwegians were alleged to have opened fire on SLA positions at Al-Mari several days ago, wounding an SLA soldier in the back. Also, the Norwegians reportedly tried to block the passage of an SLA unit yesterday at the village of Balat. The unit then forced its way through.

A UNIFIL spokesman said in reply yesterday that in the Al-Mari incident, the Norwegians were forced to fire in self-defence after the SLA started shooting. He acknowledged that there was some tension between UNIFIL and the SLA, but said this was confined to the eastern sector.

'Afula Bombing Update: 80 Detained, Five Injured

TA231358 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Eighty people who were in the area of the local market when the bomb exploded have been detained in 'Afula. Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that most of the detainees are Arabs from the territories. Five people were injured in the explosion. A 63-year-old woman was seriously wounded and transferred to the Rambam Hospital in Haifa. A 1 and 1/2-year-old boy who was thrown in the air and suffered a concussion was hospitalized in the 'Afula Hospital. Three other people suffered light wounds and one of them has already been sent home.

OAU Chairman Addresses UN General Assembly

AB231723 Dakar PANA in English 1034 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] New York, 23 Oct (APS-SEN/PANA) — President Abdou Diouf of Senegal, current OAU chairman, has said during a debate on the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the United Nations, before the General Assembly that the outcome of 40 years of the UN, considering the objectives and principles of the organisation, shows some positive gains that no one can contest.

He said that present session will be dominated by the situation in southern Africa where the time for decisions seems to have finally arrived. He said he deplored the fact that Pretoria persists in introducing unacceptable considerations which are external to the peaceful settlement of the Namibian problem. This, he said, is an obvious interference with the sovereignty of Angola. He said that Pretoria is using Namibia as a base from which it perpetrates agressions against the Frontline States. President Diouf noted that South Africa, the only Nazi-inspired regime in the world today, still receives almost unconditional support from certain countries which, at the same time, pretend to be the indefatigable defenders of human rights.

In fact, South Africa was able to perpetuate the abominable system of apartheid since 1948 because of multinational firms and the support it receives from certain Western countries. He compared the apartheid system to granite saying it cannot be changed, it should be blown out from the interior.

The Senegalese head of state called on the international community, and especially on the permanent members of the Security Council to be fully aware of their historical responsibilities based on the charter. In addition, in the name of Africa, he formally proposed to the international community, the organisation in June 1986 of an international conference on the sanctions to be applied against South Africa.

Speaking about his recent tour in southern Africa, he said that the heads of state, with only one exception, and the heads of the liberation movements are resolved to make southern Africa a zone of peace, and South Africa a multiracial and egalitarian democratic society, which garantees freedom for all.

The OAU chairman demanded the release of Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners, the lifting of the state of emergency and the abrogation of the repressive legislation against the political, social and anti-apartheid organisations. He said that he was in favor of loyal and frank negotiations between the authorities of Pretoria and the legitimate representatives of the liberation movements and the patriotic forces of South Africa.

He also drew attention to the alarming increase in the number of the least advanced countries in Africa these past years, and the process of progressive marginalization of the continent. He said African heads of states and governments devoted the essential part of their 21st assembly meeting, in Addis Ababa, in July to this question.

They agreed on a priority programme to be implemented within five years laying down the foundations of a sustained growth and a self-centred and self-maintained development at national, regional and continental levels.

President Diouf praised the international community for its response to the drought and famine emergency. However, he added, the task is great and the situation is such that there is still a lot to be done. In fact, he said, the problem should be treated at the root level. He made an appeal, in the name of OAU heads of states and governments, during the first semester of 1986, of a special session of the General Assembly on the critical economic situation in Africa. This meeting could be an opportunity for laying out the problems in their entirety and interrelationships, to evaluate the achievements and to mobilize all the industrialised countries.

The multilateral financial institutions and the international community in general, through an integrated approach and a coordinated action towards an adequate effort, could contribute to the economic recovery of the continent, he said. besides, the president stressed the spectacular increase of the volume of the external debt in Africa. he noted that, despite this, african heads of state and government recognized that this was an obligation they had to honor.

The negative development of the international economic situation, Mr Diouf said, is putting Africa in a paradoxical position of being the least advanced continent while contribution financial resources in favour of developed countries.

ETHIOPIA

Mengistu Receives Hungary's Marothy 23 Oct

EA232243 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text]Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam received today and held talks with Comrade Dr Laszlo Marothy, leader of the team participating in the economic, scientific, technical cooperation and trade joint commission of Revolutionary Ethiopia and Hungary, Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Politburo, and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.

The comrade secretary general stated that the current meeting of the Ethiopian-Hungarian Commission will contribute its share to further strengthening and enhancing bilateral relations, and he expressed happiness on seeing that the meeting is being held in an atmosphere of complete comradeship and understanding. On behalf of our party, the revolutionary government and the people, the comrade secretary general thanked the Hungarian People's Republic for the assistance it has rendered while standing alongside Revolutionary Ethiopia during the past 11 years of struggle and victory. He also expressed his wish that it would not stop here and that cooperation and healthy relations between the two friendly countries would be further strengthened in various sectors in the future.

In addition, our comrade revolutionary leader briefed Comrade Marothy on Revolutionary Ethiopia's current general situation. He affirmed that Hungary will now start to further strengthen its cooperation with Revolutionary Ethiopia.

Present during the ceremony held at the comrade secretary general's special office were comrade Adis Tedla, member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee Political Bureau and deputy chairman of the Central Planning National Committee, and Comrade Dr Gyula Bonar.

Delegation Briefed

EA232258 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] The Hungarian delegation led by Comrade Dr Laszlo Marothy was briefed this morning on the problems resulting from drought in our country and past and present work being done through the Relief and Rehabilitation Commission [RRC].

Briefing the delegation, Comrade Dawit Wolde Giorgis, Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee member and commissioner of the RRC, pointed out that the working contribution of, and the results achieved by, the commission, in particular during the severe crisis of 1983-85 in emergency life-saving and rehabilitation work, was highly regarded and was encouraging. He added that efforts to withstand the problem and find a lasting solution to it would continue in the future.

For his part, Comrade Laszlo affirmed that the People's Republic of Hungary sincerely desires to render necessary support and assistance to Revolutionary Ethiopia's short-, intermediate- and long-term plans which it is implementing to cope with its drought problem.

The delegation also visited the "our victory" exposition where they were briefed on the political, economic, cultural, social and defense situation of Revolutionary Ethiopia.

Mengistu Praises UN on 40th Anniversary

EA232256 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam has reiterated that, Revolutionary Ethiopia, one of the founding members of the United Nations will unwaveringly respect its obligations to the fulfillment of the UN Charter and its principles and objectives and for the strengthening of the organization.

Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, WPE Central Committee secretary general, PMAC chairman and commander-in-chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces said this in a message he sent today to the organization's secretary general, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the United Nations to be marked tomorrow.

In his message, our comrade revolutionary leader said that this occasion is not only when the 40th anniversary of the United Nations is colorfully celebrated, but [words indistinct] it should be seen as a time of decisiveness to carry out joint activities to get rid of the threats to the dignity and security of mankind. The comrade secretary general pointed out in his message that Revolutionary Ethiopia strongly believes that the United Nations, in the past 40 years, has been instrumental in the achievement of useful results in all endeavors of mankind and added that these results, in view of the uncontrollable arms race, problems of development and international economic relations, the degradation of human rights by apartheid and the continued illegal occupation of Namibia by the apartheid regime, show that the organization still has many things to achieve.

Comrade Mengistu further said that the strength and successes of the United Nations are chiefly based on the political good will of the members and noted that this is a time that compels every member-state to renew its obligations for the fulfillment of the organization's principles and objectives.

He added that it is necessary to start with a new interest and international solidarity for the supremacy of justice and to fight backwardness. He noted that in this respect, the organization should continue its efforts to combat problems that are threatening its security and the respect and strengthening of its Charter objective.

In his message, the comrade secretary general made it clear that member-states should show their faithfullness to their organization in practice by implementing the justice and freedom principles as stipulated in the Charter aimed at completely eradicating injustice.

EPLF Claims Victories Against Dergue Troops

EA231143 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Summary] During a 1-hour engagement on 21 October, Eritrean People's Liberation Front [EPLF] forces on the northeastern Sahel front attacked Dergue troops moving from (Algen). They killed 30 soldiers and wounded over 40; they also captured 23 Kalashnikovs. In another engagement on 20 October, EPLF forces attacked an enemy battalion moving from Banuna, in Barka Region, killing 30 soldiers, wounding 45, and capturing 1; 21 Kalashnikovs and 3 RPG's were seized.

Eritrean Front Claims 66 Government Troops Killed

EA241029 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea in Tigrinya 0400 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Anseba River: The heroic EPLF [Eritrean People's Liberation Front] forces carried out an offensive on 22 October against the forces of the Addis Ababa regime stationed on the River Anseba and the Halhal fronts, inflicting heavy casualties in men and material. During the offensive carried out at the River Anseba, our heroic combatants killed 50 enemy soldiers, wounded 60 and captured 5 others, together with 20 Kalashnikov assault rifles, 1 Bren gun, 1 radio communications set, and a pistol. The remnants of the enemy force which escaped death or injury retreated in disarray.

On the same day, in a successful offensive carried out by our heroic combatants along the left flank of the Halhal front, the enemy lost 16 soldiers dead, 30 others were wounded; 3 Kalashnikov assault rifles were captured by our combatants.

KENYA

Uganda's Ssemogerere Arrives With Message for Moi

EA232011 Nairobi KNA in English 1700 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Nairobi, 23 Oct KNA — Uganda's acting prime minister, Mr Paul K. Ssemogerere, who is also the minister for internal affairs, arrived in Nairobi this evening with a personal message from Uganda's head of state, Gen Tito Okello for President Daniel Arap Moi.

Mr Ssemogerere was accompanied by the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Olara Otunnu, the minister for local government, Mr Ochaya Lakidi, and officials of the Ugandan Government. The contents of the message were not disclosed by Mr Ssemogerere who seemed to be in a good mood as he arrived.

Meanwhile, the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale is scheduled to return home from New York and the Bahamas on Friday 25th October, 1985 at 6 a.m. Mr Mwangale will address a press conference or arrival.

UGANDA

Ssemogerere Leads Government Delegation to Nairobi

EA231621 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 23 oct 85

[Text] A Uganda Government delegation led by the acting prime minister and minister of internal affairs, Mr Paul Ssemogerere, has left for Nairobi to deliver a special message from the chairman of the Military Council and head of state, General Tito Okello Lutwa, to President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya. The delegation will also hold discussions with the Kenyan Government in preparation for the peace talks scheduled to resume in Nairobi on Monday next week. The delegation, which includes the ministers of foreign affairs, Mr Olara Otunnu, and of local government, Mr Ocaya Lakidi, will return home tomorrow.

Government Troops Advancing Toward Lukaya

EA231125 Nairobi DAILY NATION in English 23 Oct 85 p 28

[Unattributed report: "Troops Head for Lukaya"]

[Excerpt] Edward Kitaka, *NATION*'s correspondent in Kampala, report that the Uganda Government troops have bypassed the bridge on river Katonga, which has been in the National Resistance Army's (NRA) hands since 22 September, and gone behind the guerrilla line. According to *MUNNO* newspaper the troops were now heading toward the town of Lukaya. The Catholic Church-backed daily said the troops were now under a reorganized command, and that the campaign to reopen this important route to the southwest of the country, which also serves the landlocked states of Burundi, Rwanda and eastern Zaire, was picking up momentum.

Meanwhile, the Uganda Federal Democratic Movement (FEDEMU) — one of four guerrilla organizations that have agreed to work with the ruling military council — has warned Mr Yoweri Museveni's National Resistance Army (NRA) to stop provoking it. In a press release this afternoon, the FEDEMU chairman, Dr David Lwanga, said the NRA guerrillas had abducted and killed an unspecified number of fighters of FEDEMU's military wing, the Federal Democratic Army (FDA). The NRA had also captured a number of guns and ammunition, the FEDEMU chief complained.

Dr Lwanga did not say where the captures and killings had taken place, but a local newspaper reported on Monday that Mr Museveni's men had just captured four FEDEMU guerrillas around Nakawuka, some 8 miles southwest of Kampala.

Today's press release also called on both the NRA and the official government army — known as the Uganda National Liberation Army (UNLA) — to get out of areas under FEDEMU control.

He said there had been an agreement between the NRA and FEDEMU, when they both fought ousted President Milton Obote's government, that the former would operate in the Luwero area and the latter in Mpigi, Nukono and Masaka.

GHANA

Cuban Youth Delegation Arrives for Visit

AB231325 Accra Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] A two-member delegation of the Young Communist Union of Cuba has arrived in Accra to begin a week's visit to the country at the invitation of the National Youth Organizing Commission [NYOC]. Speaking to newsmen at the Kotoka International Airport, the leader, Mr (Miguel Perera), said his delegation is in the country to share ideas with the Ghanaian youth and explore areas in which the youth of the two countries can further collaborate. He said the visit will also strengthen the already cordial relations between Ghana and Cuba.

Mr (Perera) noted that there is already in existence some degree of cooperation between the Young Communist Union and the NYOC. He recalled that both organizations are following an exchange program under which members pay reciprocal visits to each other's country.

LIBERIA

Doe Reportedly Warns Opposition, Clergy on Elections

AB232138 Paris AFP in French 1555 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Monrovia, 23 Oct (AFP) — Liberian Head of State Samuel Doe issued a strong warning Tuesday to members of the Liberian Action Party (LAP — opposition party) and to leaders of the clergy, stating that the government would not continue to tolerate "acts of indiscipline," the official LIBERIAN NEWS AGENCY, LINA, reported today in Monrovia.

Mr Doe, who was addressing members of his party, the National Democratic Party of Liberia, NDPL, accused LAP members of "harassing, intimidating, and abusing" government officials since last 15 October's general elections and of proclaiming their victory in these elections even though the vote-count has not ended yet.

He (?urged the Liberian people) to be patient until the official results are proclaimed, adding that if complaints are to be made about irregularities, they should be made to the Special Elections Commission (Secom) which is in charge of supervising the election conduct.

According to LINA, Mr Doe also stated that most of the members of the electoral commission had been "bribed" by LAP in order to influence the electoral process.

The Liberian head of state also warned the "religious leaders, who hide behind the Bible to engage in activities contrary to religious ethics, especially in political activities," and that they will have to face the full weight of the law, LINA added.

NIGERIA

Government Calls for Amendment of UN Charter

AB232152 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Nigeria has called for an amendment to the UN Charter to make it conform with current realities. A particular area that demands urgent review is the setting of the Security Council. The chief of General Staff, Commodore Ebitu Ukiwe, told the General Assembly in New York today that the time had come for Africa, Asia and Latin America to have at least one country each in the Security Council as permanent members. Commodore Ukiwe observed that at present more than two-thirds of the total membership belongs to the Third World, and contended that it was proper to accord recognition to the (?centers) of power which they represented. He noted that when the UN Charter was drawn up in 1945, many of the Nonaligned nations were yet to be independent, but pointed out that the position had since changed. Commodore Ukiwe said it was high time the Charter took cognizance of this reality. He also raised the issue of the veto which he said had been abused. Commodore Ukiwe said rather than use the power to promote the status of the Charter, the permanent members had turned it into an instrument of impediment in the way of the Council where a permanent member found its national interests (?at variance) with the need to maintain peace.

SENEGAL

1985-86 Harvest Shows Increased Production

AB232057 Paris AFP in French 1316 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Report by Patrice Collen]

[Excerpt] Dakar, 23 Oct (AFP) — The return of the rains to the Sahel and the exceptional results of the 1985-86 agricultural season should bring a relief to the economy of Senegal, whose financial situation remains most precarious. A pluvial rainy season, after 10 years of drought, has made possible a record harvest of grains this year: nearly 1 million metric tons of millet and sorghum, according to authoritative sources, as compared to the yearly average of 500,000 metric tons for the past 25 years. The year has been a good one for corn, too, and it should yield 140,000 metric tons this year, compared to 98,000 last year. The niebe, a type of bean, has made a spectacular breakthrough in the whole northern half of Senegal where it has dethroned peanuts which are now limited to the less arid southern regions. The seeds introduced this year — variety CB5 — originating from California, should yield 57,000 metric tons. What remains is to find export openings for this new produce which is somewhat rejected by the Senegalese consumer, despite its nutritive value. As for the peanut, which remains one of the mainstays of the Senegalese economy despite the slowdown, government authorities expect average production, but emphasize that output has improved. The expected yield is 560,000 metric tons, from which should be substracted the losses, the seeds kept by the farmers as table peanuts, the drain to the clandestine markets, and the peanuts required for reconstituting the seed bank.

ANGOLA

Dos Santos on Meeting With Portugal's Eanes

MB240635 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Excerpt] President Jose Eduardo dos Santos met separately with Presidents Aristides Pereira of Cape Verde and Antonio Ramalho Eanes of Portugal at the UN Headquarters in New York yesterday.

In a brief press conference with Portuguese journalists, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos said that he had discussed a number of bilateral issues with General Ramalho Eanes. He further said that the meeting had produced very positive results.

The Angolan head of state said he hoped that the new Portuguese leadership brought to power by recent elections will create conditions for relations of friendship and cooperation between Portugal and Angola to develop on the bases of stability and mutual trust.

UN Delegation Decides RSA Should Pay Compensation

AU231902 Paris AFP in English 1859 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Lisbon, Oct 23 (AFP) — A United Nations delegation in Angola to study the damage of a South African raid into Angola nearly a month ago has found it difficult to say who caused what damage, the Portuguese agency ANOP reported here today. ANOP quoted the delegation's head, Egyptian diplomat Muhammed Kamel Amar, as saying in Luanda today that it had been difficult to decide which damage had been caused by South Africa, and which by Angolan rebels.

The Egyptian diplomat, speaking shortly before the delegation's departure for New York, said there had certainly been cooperation between South Africa and the rebel National Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA).

He said South Africa should pay compensation to Angola for damage caused in fighting, mainly in the southeast of the country. "We found a country that has to face foreign aggression, a country that wants peace to develop its enormous potential," he added, calling on all countries to support Luanda. The delegation, which includes diplomats from Australia and Peru, as well as 11 UN officials, will now estimate just how much South Africa should pay to Angola in compensation for its invasion into the country. It is to prepare a report for the UN Security Council.

UN Commission Departs

MB231804 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] The UN Commission which is carrying out UN Security Council Resolution 571/85 on the damage to Angola by the recent South African military invasion ended its work early this afternoon. The 14-man UN delegation has already left for New York.

This morning, at the end of their visit, commission members met Comrade Franca van Dunem, deputy minister of external relations, and held a press conference. Before departing Luanda, Egypt's Muhammed Kamel Amar, UN commission chairman, issued the following press communique:

Muhammed Kamel Amar, chairman of the UN investigating commission set up by the UN Security Council Resolution 571/85 to assess the damages caused by the recent South African aggression against Angola in September and October, before departing for New York thanked the Angolan Government and people for their valuable assistance to the UN commission during its visit to Angola. Mr Amar expressed this on behalf of other UN commission members such as Mr (Filipe Belaunde) from Peru and Mr (Laidley Row) from Australia. The UN commission members also thanked the People's Republic of Angola for its warm and friendly hospitality.

Mr Amar recalled the meetings that the UN commission held with the Angolan minister of external relations, defense, and petroleum, who allotted time for the UN commission and who were frank and outspoken in their answers. The UN commission also expressed thanks for the opportunity to talk with officials in the Ministry of War Veterans. Mr Amar said that the UN commission was particularly grateful for the opportunity to visit the areas affected by the recent South African aggression, in particular the city of Cazombo and other cities hit by South African attacks, including the city of N'giva. In addition, the UN commission also evaluated the situation in the field and discussed it with provincial commissars and other officials. Mr Amar said that the UN commission has visited Moxico, Cuando Cubango, Huila, Cunene, Benguala, and Luanda Provinces.

He added that the UN commission will convey their findings to the UN Security Council in the context of UN Resolution 571/85. Mr Amar said that the UN commission was quite shocked with the suffering of the Angolan people as a result of South African military aggression, and he expressed his sympathy with the victims of war in Angola.

Finally, Mr Amar reaffirmed the gratitude of the UN commission for the support and assistance given by the Angolan Government and people during their stay in Angola.

Attorney General Departs for Talks in Bulgaria

MB240610 Luanda ANGOP in Spanish 1620 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Luanda, 23 Oct (ANGOP) — An Angolan delegation from the Office of the Attorney General led by Attorney General Antero de Abreu has left for Sofia, Bulgaria, at the invitation of De Abreu's Bulgarian counterpart, Kostadin Nikolov Lyutov.

Antero de Abreu, who is accompanied by the Cunene, Namibe, and Benguela provincial attorney generals, will stay in Sofia for a few days and will exchange experiences in the context of the strengthening relations between the attorney generals of the two countries. Antero de Abreu was seen off at the airport by Boyan Mikhaylov, the Bulgarian ambassador to Angola.

BOTSWANA

Commonwealth Demands RSA Compensate for Raid

MB231145 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 1111 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Excerpts] Commonwealth heads of government have demanded that South Africa make full compensation to Botswana for loss of life, injury, and damage to property, which resulted from the 14 June brutal attack on Gaborone. The president, Dr Quett Masire, flew to London yesterday where he will undergo a routine medical check-up before coming home late next week. Part of the president's delegation including the minister of foreign affairs, Dr Chiepe will come straight to Botswana through London and Johannesburg.

MOZAMBIQUE

Trade Union Official Returns From Moscow Meeting

MB231606 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1030 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Jose Correia Ganancio, deputy secretary general of the Mozambique Workers Organization [OTM], recently returned to Maputo from Moscow where he attended the 37th session of the general council of World Federation of Trade Unions [WFTU].

Jose Correia Ganancio headed the OTM delegation to this meeting. OTM participated as an observer. In a speech which he delivered at the meeting, Jose Ganancio placed emphasis on the drought, and famine problems affecting our country through a destabilization policy practiced by imperialism in southern Africa, and effectively carried out by its armed wing, the South African regime. The session of the WFTU General Council approved two resolutions on Africa concerning famine and southern Africa.

SOUTH AFRICA

President Botha Says Debt 'Only Problem'

MB230911 Johannesburg BUSINESS DAY in English 22 Oct 85 p 2

[Interview with State President P.W. Botha by Steve Mufson and Karen Eliot-House in Pretoria; date not given]

[Text] As killing and clashes spread in cities, President P.W. Botha sought to depict a picture of serenity. With the sun pouring through the windows and the purple jacaranda trees visible on the hills outside his quiet, covernous, wood-panelled office, Botha declared: "The only problem we have is debt."

Even that problem, he said, would soon be behind as foreign banks become convinced of the country's stability.

"I think that at a certain stage some months ago some international interests thought this is going to be a second Iran, that the government won't last, that the government will be overthrown by force and South Africa will end up in confusion. That's not going to happen," he said. "That's not going to happen."

Speaking as SA neared the end of three months of a partial state of emergency, and with his personal role in the conflict growing, throughout the half-hour interview Botha was smiling, soft-spoken and reassuring, belying his reputation for a quick temper and intemperate remarks.

The day before, police had shocked the world by jumping out of the back of a railways truck outside Cape Town and shooting dead several stone-throwing youths. Despite international appeals for clemency, he had just refused to stop the execution of a black activist and poet, Benjamin Moloise, who was convicted of murdering a policeman.

"Of course, every political leader would like to see as many as possible of his supporters following him," he said. "But if you are a man of principle and a man of action, and I think I am, you cannot avoid that people differ with you from time to time."

He blamed the unrest on a worsening economy and a few "communist" agitators and defended the use of the army in combating violence. "This isn't the first time that the government has used troops. It's a tradition in South Africa," he said.

Asked if he is planning to lift the state of emergency in effect in 36 areas of the country, he said: "I hope to lift those regulations as soon as possible but I won't for one moment hesitate to apply them in other parts if terrorists try to create problems."

With the first round of debt renegotiation between international bankers and South Africa scheduled to open in London tomorrow, Botha gave no indication he will accelerate his timetable for political change to ease the anxiety of the country's major creditors.

"I never considered my political actions to be influenced by what other people say or do, especially what other countries say or do. Not that I think South Africa is an island, but our policies are directed by South Africa itself: what is just, what is practical and what can be applied in such a way that we retain stability and at the same time move towards new policies that will satisfy more people."

Botha suggested that major strides had already been made towards accommodating the political aspirations of the more than 20-million disenfranchised blacks and that more than 10-million had the vote in their homelands.

Asked if his pledge to grant blacks "full participation at the highest levels" could lead to a black South African Foreign Minister of Defence Minister in five to 10 years, Botha said proudly: "You can go interview a black defence minister now. You can just go to the Transkei. You can find one."

He insists he isn't hurt by criticism of his policies from the Right, the Left or abroad. But he expressed dismay at US pressure on him. "The US calls itself the fortress of freedom and liberty," he said. "I can't understand why they co-operate with countries

where freedom is destroyed by dictatorships and attack a country where we are working for freedom and liberty."

Despite increasing criticism of Botha's policies by right-wing critics, who feel he is caving in to foreign and internal pressure, and by left-wing critics who say he is moving too slowly, Botha said he felt secure in his path. Walking towards the door of his office, he said "It is a bit lonely at times, but it makes you strong".

Meeting on Rescheduling Debt Opens in London

MB231120 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1115 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] London, Oct 23, SAPA — A meeting between South African Reserve Bank and government officials and representatives of 29 major foreign banks to discuss the rescheduling of South Africa's debt obligation opened in London this morning under conditions of strict secrecy. The organisers of the meeting, the firm of accountants Price Waterhouse, refused to disclose the venue because anti-apartheid campaigners had planned a demonstration.

The South African delegation is led by Dr Chris Stals, the director-general of finance and chairman of the standstill coordinating committee, and acting as mediator is Dr Fritz Leutwiler, the former president of the Swiss National Bank. Today's meeting is the first of several aimed at finding a solution to the debt repayments before the end of the year. No decisions are expected today. The meeting has been called to clarify the South African situation, to allow bankers to ask questions and to arrange an agenda for future talks.

The chairman of the anti-apartheid movement, Archbishop Trevor Huddleston, has written to the 13 British banks involved urging them to boycott the meeting and refuse to agree to rescheduling.

"It is clear that any agreement on the rescheduling of South Africa's foreign debt will be interpreted by the South African authorities as an endorsement of their policies, and will seriously undermine the efforts of the international community to help put an end to the system of apartheid," he said.

South Africa's foreign debt to overseas banks stands at 24 billion dollars, of which 14 billion is short-term. Agreement on the rescheduling is not expected before the end of the year. A statement may be issued after the meeting, but the organisers would not confirm this.

Pik Botha Comments on UN Anniversary Celebrations

MB231746 Johannesburg Television in English 1700 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Excerpts] In New York, American President Ronald Reagan and British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher will join world leaders as celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the United Nations enter their final lap.

[Begin recording] In Pretoria, Foreign Minister Pik Botha said the UN's track record was not something to be proud of, considering the principles it was supposed to stand for.

[Botha] What were these principles and ideals? To save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, to live together in peace, to secure peace worldwide, to promote social welfare standards of all the peoples, to practice tolerance, to safeguard the self-determination of communities and peoples. Now, if you take that together, then I need not be the judge, if you see how little has been achieved. The question is simply this: We all live by results. Is it true that there are more people today who live in misery than there were 40 years ago? These are the questions we must ask ourselves. Is the world's population more free? Do people all over the world enjoy more liberty, more meaningful, fundamental political rights, human rights? Are they more hungry or less hungry? What has happened to ignorance, to training, to education? The countries that became free, independent is a better word, because they did not become free, are there really genuine elections in those countries? These are the questions that the UN ought to review on a day like this, but instead, I understand, they are again celebrating, by getting at South Africa. [end recording]

Call To Pay Botswana Compensation Rejected

MB240554 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] At the United Nations, South Africa's Ambassador Mr Kurt von Schirnding has said in a letter to the UN Secretary General, Dr Perez de Cuellar, that South Africa does not accept that it is under any obligation to pay compensation to Botswana. Referring to the South African attack on ANC targets in Gaborone on 14 June this year, Mr von Schirnding said South Africa had exercised its inherent and natural right of defense in order to curtail future acts of violence in the country.

In his letter, Mr von Schirnding rejected a Security Council resolution that the South African attack on ANC targets had been an unprovoked act of aggression against Botswana.

Viljoen on Complaints Against Security Forces

MB231136 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1126 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Pretoria, Oct 23, SAPA — Intimidation and "aggressive actions" by "malicious elements" were preventing complaints being laid at the defence forces complaints offices in black townships, the SADF chief, General Constand Viljoen, said today. He said in a statement in Pretoria that this had come to light from investigations into allegations that the complaints offices had not met with expectations.

"At the same time it also appears that genuine, well-founded complaints do not exist," he said. "In the light of this, I expected institutions who have the best interests of the republic at heart, to support the defence force in its efforts to prove that allegations are either true or false".

A number of complaints offices were set up in black townships last month where people could lodge complaints and allegations of military personnel's improper conduct during the unrest. General Viljoen appealed today to organisations or people like the clergy, newsmen, legal organisations, politicians "or anybody at all" to bring any allegation to the attention of the complaints offices.

He reiterated the SADF would not tolerate or condone any irregularities whatsoever, but that at the same time it did not wish to be tried on rumour following from propaganda spread by malicious elements.

"I give the assurance that every allegation will be investigated and action will be taken against offenders through the normal legal process," he said.

It had to be remembered that the hostile propaganda attack on South Africa included the discrediting of the security forces as a high priority. I regard it as my duty to do everthing humanly possible to prevent this happening through malicious scandal-mongering.

"I also accept that irregularities can occur, but action will be taken accordingly against offenders," he said.

Stellenbosch Students Still Seek ANC Meeting
MB231108 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1050 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Cape Town October 23 SAPA — Yesterday's talks between the state president, Mr P.W. Botha, and two of the Stellenbosch students who had intended to meet the ANC youth wing, had done nothing to change their minds about the desirability of the Lusaka trip, one of them, Mr Philip Verster, said today.

Mr Verster, chairman of the Stellenbosch University Student Representative Council and the leader of the group, Mr Hennie Bester, returned from Pretoria yesterday afternoon. Mr Verster said their discussions had all been "in camera," and he could not give detals. It had, however, been "very cordial."

He said he had not reapplied for his passport, which, along with those of the other group members, was withdrawn shortly after news of the visit leaked out. The decision on whether to reapply would rest with the group, he said, and this had not been discussed.

Asked about his attitude towards attemps to get support for a motion of no confidence in Mr Botha as chancellor of the university, he said "no comment."

Methodist Church Wants 'Dialogue' With ANC
MB231601 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 22 Oct 85

[Text] The newly-elected president of the Methodist Church of Southern Africa for the 1986-87 term of office, the Reverend (Jack Scholtz) of Bloemfontein says there is no alternative but for the church to encourage dialogue with the banned ANC. Shortly after his election Mr (Scholtz) told a news conference in Bloemfontein that dialogue with the ANC could give insights to the church which could not otherwise be gained.

Dhlomo Says ANC Behind Attacks on Inkatha
MB231102 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1057 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Johannesburg Oct 23 SAPA — The ANC's so-called armed struggle was being increasingly directed at Inkatha, Dr Oscar Dhlomo, the secretary-general of Inkatha said today. In a statement on the ANC's attack on Inkatha offices in Amsterdam, Dr Dhlomo said he was not surprised that the ANC had claimed responsibility for the "cowardly bombing and looting."

"We have for some time been in possession of irrefutable information that the ANC is planning to destroy Inkatha and assassinate its leader, Chief M.G. Buthelezi."

He said the ANC's so-called armed struggle was increasingly being directed at Inkatha and Chief Buthelezi and not at apartheid.

"Chief Buthelezi's only crime appears to be that through Inkatha he is working for the establishment of a democratic and non-racial state of South Africa where political dissent will not be a crime punishable by death. On the other hand the ANC apparently thinks it can intimidate and silence its political opponents by either assassinating them, bombing their property or burning them alive — as its South African surrogates are presently doing in the townships."

Dr Dhlomo said Inkatha could not be intimidated or shaken from its resolve to work for a peaceful, democratic future for all in South Africa regardless of race, colour or creed.

"There are people who when we talk in public about ANC attacks on us, accuse us of attacking the ANC. This cowardly action of wrecking our office in Amsterdam has thus vindicated us and the battle lines have now been defined by the ANC and not by us."

He said Western countries which still allowed the ANC to establish so-called information centres in their countries should now be aware that the ANC's so-called struggle was against the victims and not the perpetrators of apartheid.

"We trust that all those individuals and organisations who profess support for peaceful political change in South Africa — more especially church groups and American and other foreign political pressure groups — will come to the assistance of Inkatha now that it has been so openly on the receiving end of ANC violence."

The damage to the Amsterdam office amounted to more than 30,000 dollars (about R75,000). Acid was poured into equipment (including a computer and printer) and a paint bomb exploded wrecking furniture, books and documents and material was stolen.

Inkatha-UDF Clashes Escalating

MB240544 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] The secretary general of Inkatha, Dr Oscar Dhlomo, says the ANC and the United Democratic Front [UDF] are working together for a system in which political dissidence will not be tolerated and will be punishable by death in South Africa.

Interviewed by the SABC, Dr Dhlomo said that the reason for the attack on and destruction of Inkatha's offices in Amsterdam by the ANC was that organization's objections to the antiviolence stance of Inkatha.

Dr Dhlomo said a dangerous situation was developing because of escalating clashes between Inkatha and the UDF. He added that the UDF was clearly in sympathy with the political aims and philosophy of the ANC. This meant that any conflict between Inkatha and the UDF was interpreted by the ANC as involving the ANC itself. He said the reverse was also true.

Boesak Testifies at Trial in Malmesbury

MB231403 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1321 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Malmesbury, Oct 23, SAPA — Dr Allan Boesak told the Malmesbury Magistrates Court today he was committed to the struggle for justice and peace in South Africa and would remain in the country until that was achieved. He was testifying in an application for the relaxation of his bail conditions.

Dr Boesak said he had turned down several offers of academic and ministry positions overseas because "I believe that my role and ministry is in South Africa — I have a commitment to this country and its people." He said his congregation would be "devasted" if he fled the country and he undertook to stand trial.

"I welcome the opportunity to stand trial so that I can give testimony to my faith," he said.

Dr Boesak also undertook not to interfere with any witnesses or influence anybody to say anything. He further undertook not to make any utternaces which would be repetitions of the alleged offences in charges against him. Dr Boesak said it would be "extremely risky" for him to make such utterances because "every word I say is reported."

He believed his bail of R20,000 was excessive since he welcomed the opportunity to stand trial. He said he had had to obtain the money from outside sources because if he had had to raise it himself he would "still be in jail."

Numerous positions held by Dr Boesak in church organisations were listed, including assessor of the synod of the Ned Geref Sendingskerk [Dutch Reform Mission Church], and high positions on the Western Province council of churches, the South African Council of Churches and the Alliance of Black Reformed Christians.

Mr H.P. Viljoen, SC [State Counselor], Dr Boesak's defence counsel, said that Dr Boesak's many offices required him to be able to move freely and over South Africa.

Earlier, Mr Viljoen said the defence would propose two new bail conditions to replace the 10 imposed on September 20.

The proposal was that:

Dr Boesak will not interfere with any state witnesses.

He will not act in any of the ways attributed to him on the charge sheet — which include allegedly promoting boycotts and disinvestment and attending illegal gatherings.

Outlining his argument, Mr Viljoen said Dr Boesak's attorneys were given less than two hours notice at his first court appearance on September 20.

The 10 bail conditions required by the police were "provisionally accepted" in order to secure Dr Boesak's immediate release, but they had since had time to prepare a case for the amendment of the conditions.

He said Dr Boesak was charged with four contraventions of the Internal Security Act. He was alleged to have promoted the boycott of businesses, propogated the "discontinuance of education" by teachers, promoted disinvestment and attended an illegal gathering.

Under the present conditions his movement was restricted, his passport withdrawn and he could attend funerals only with police permission. Mr Viljoen described the R20,000 bail as "out of all proportion" and said he would call at least three witnesses to support the application. Among them would be Professor Nicholas Wolterstorff, a teacher of philosophy who was involved in the reform churches in America and who would explain the effect of the bail conditions outside the country. He would also call Dr Boesak and members of the Ned Geref Sendingkerk.

Dr Boesak was given a standing ovation by about 60 people in the public gallery of the court when he entered this morning. Roads surrounding the court building were cordoned off from the early morning onwards and more than 40 policeman and riot squad members, including two dog handlers, were stationed around the building. Police trucks and riot squad buses were parked in front of the court. People were searched and checked with metal detectors before they were allowed into the court.

Prof Wolterstorff, an adviser to the Christian Reform Church in the United States which has had "considerable contact" with the NG Sendingkerk and other reformed churches in South Africa, and is an observer member of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches [WARC], testified for Dr Boesak.

He said the WARC was the largest group of reformed churches in the world, with 158 member churches to which 90 million people belonged. Prof Wolterstorff said Dr Boesak's unanimous election as president of the WARC in 1982 for a seven-year term was unprecedented.

Although there were three deputy presidents they were area representatives of Europe, Asia and America, rather than substitutes and the Alliance had no intention of replacing Dr Boesak for the remainder of his term.

His duties as president included chairing the annual meeting of the Alliance's 30-member executive committee. This meeting took place in New Delhi earlier this month, but Dr Boesak was prevented from fulfilling his duties by his bail conditions.

As president he had to represent the Alliance all over the world and some countries he had visited were Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Holland and West Germany. He was also the spokesman of the Alliance to outside organisations.

"In order to fulfill his functions it is absolutely imperative for him to travel internationally," said Prof Wolterstorff. He said it was inconceivable that Dr Boesak would skip bail.

Mr H. Klem, SC, for the state, asked Prof Wolterstorff to comment on incidents where Dr Boesak had spoken at a church service on the evils of the South African Police and afterwards a person stoned the police.

Mr Klem asked if he agreed that if Dr Boesak was allowed to address a mass meeting in South Africa "the mere fact of his standing in the community" could result in the killing of innocent people, even if Dr Boesak did not intend this.

"Yes" said Prof Wolterstorff. "It also seems to me that the speeches of the state president may lead to violence but this does not lead to the state president not giving speeches." Dr Boesak denies a suggestion that his presence at meetings in the Western Cape might serve as a "catalyst" to violence.

Under cross-examination by Mr H. Klem, SC, for the state, Dr Boesak said: "My presence would be felt in a different direction. It's history that the moment I was removed from the Western Cape we had more violence that ever before. The fact that a person like myself who advocates non-violence, based on Christian principles, should be silenced has caused more anger and exacerbated turmoil."

Dr Boesak said his presence had had a "calming effect" at two large two funerals he had attended — the funerals of four Cradock UDF [United Democratic Front] members and victims of the Uitenhage shootings had been "highly-charged" and "very emotional" with more than 50,000 people present.

He was questioned regarding a remark in which he had said "in the actions of the government we see the spiritual children of Hitler." Dr Boesak said that it was "fact" that the roots of Afrikaner nationalism and its academic tradition were tied to the philosophical roots of Nazi Germany. Counsel for Dr Boesak, Mr Viljoen raised objections to a line of questioning regarding Dr Boesak's attitude to school boycotts and the attitude of the World Allience of Reformed Churches to disinvestiment.

"This is not only a questioning line that is irrelevant but could be damaging to the accused," Mr Viljoen said. He pointed out that Dr Boesak had undertaken not to promote boycotts or disinvestiment, as part of his bail conditions. The court upheld the objection.

Buthelezi Speaks in London on Negotiated Reform
MB231648 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1529 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Ulundi, Oct 23, SAPA — Increased prosperity would accelerate change in South Africa, decreased prosperity would retard it — and a prolonged recession would destroy the chances of negotiated reform, leaving the way open for violent revolution, Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi said in London tonight.

The KwaZulu chief minister and Inkatha president told an influential audience at the South Africa Club that, contrary to what was reflected by overseas media, South Africa had never been nearer to non-violent, negotiated change.

And, according to a copy of his prepared speech, he called on the international community not to be stampeded into precipitous action when the fate of South Africa hung in delicate balance between the forces of violence and non-violence.

Chief Buthelezi conceded that the South African state president, Mr P.W. Botha, had "to be carried, struggling and kicking," to the point of bringing about really fundamental change. However, whether it was under Mr Botha or "another," the forces demanding non-violent, negotiated change would force the government to make meaningful moves in the right direction, he said.

Chief Buthelezi listed some of Mr Botha's existing reforms and promised changes and said these would previously have been regarded as "hideous heresy" in National Party policy. But these "little glimmers of hope" were nullified when Mr Botha said he would retain the Group Areas Act, one of the main pillars of apartheid, Chief Buthelezi added.

Examples of what he called the state president's tragic underachievement in bringing about meaningful reform were his spearheading of the new constitution (which was "deeply at the root of the current unrest"), his pandering to the right-wing, his refusal to sign a declaration of intent with black leaders and his insistence that racial divisions were fundamental political divisions which must be retained.

Chief Buthelezi said that mining, commerce, industry and banking had become politicised as never before. It was widely accepted that, more than anything else, economic realities had dictated that the government could no longer follow policies aimed primarily at maintaining apartheid.

A groundswell of demand for fundamental change — working more strongly than the forces of violence — was now taking place in a South Africa in which there was a total economic interdependence of blacks and whites.

The demand was for Mr Botha to lead the country effectively in partnership with blacks. "What makes it so tragic," he said, "is that the state president seems more afraid of the lunatic fringe on the right than of his constituency in the whole country."

Chief Buthelezi said the world was being given a picture, "dramatised by foreign correspondents," of widespread uncontrollable violence in a South Africa in which black anger had unified people in concerted action which would bring the South African Government to its knees in the foreseeable future.

The economy was represented as being in tatters. Armed revolution was being predicted in the face of government refusal to hand power to majority rule. And it was being said that there was a real need to talk to the African National Congress, as the ultimate victors, before it was too late.

The realities, Chief Buthelezi said, were different. One was that, if the government were overthrown by violence, it would be only after scorched-earth policies on both sides produced "a horribly empty victory in a destitute South Africa."

It was only political propaganda that blacks were drawing together and using violence constructively to make the country ungovernable. The truth was that violence was dividing black South Africans, not uniting them. ANC mission-in-exile broadcasts were constantly exhorting people, including children, to murder those blacks who, because they rejected violence, were called collaborators with the system. When mobs were told that persons in their midst were collaborators it left to unspeakable brutality. Families were barricaded in their houses and incinerated. Petrol was poured over people with tyres tied around their necks and they were then "set alight alive to run, screaming and burning, to death."

It was only a fraction of the truth that the government was incapable of ending the violence. In fact it has so far used only a fraction of its potential lethal power. The killing capabilities of the SA Police and Army were "too horrible to contemplate," and the ANC mission in exile was driving towards a position in which this awesome retaliation could become a reality.

Police Report Unrest Situation, Violence

23 Oct Evening Report

MB231846 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1827 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Pretoria, Oct 23, SAPA — Here is the unrest situation report for the period 7 am to 7 pm today, issued by a spokesman for SAP's Public Relation Division in Pretoria at 7.50 pm:

Western Cape:

"In Mitchells Plain, burning barricades were erected across a road. One coloured male youth was arrested in connection with these incidents. About 20 coloured youths stoned police vehicles and one coloured male youth was arrested. In a similar incident, two coloured male youths were arrested for stone-throwing. A barricade was also erected in a road and a coloured youth was arrested.

"The body of a black man with shotgun wounds was admitted to the Crossroads mortuary and it is not known where the injuries were sustained. Another body, with wounds from a petrol bomb attack yesterday, was also admitted to the mortuary. At Kraifontein and expensive private vehicle was totally destroyed by mob of 500 Coloureds, causing damage amounting to R70,000. No arrests were made.

"At Kensington, municipal tractor was destroyed by fire and several other private vehicles were stoned. One Coloured man was arrested.

"In Old Crossroads a hand grenade was lobbed at an SADF buffel this afternoon by an unknown black man. Although the grenade exploded in the close proximity of the vehicle, little damage was caused. The man escaped from the scene. In the same area, a mob of blacks stoned and petrol bombed a vehicle of the railway police. The SA Police and Railway Police retaliated with shtgun fire, killing two black men. Two minors were also injured in this incident. The deceased are M. Vetman of R267, Crossroads; Mamqwana Mati of Q364, Crossroads. The injured minors are Alfred Natshaya, 2, and Thabiso Natshaya, 3. Both were taken to the local hospital, treated and discharged.

"The above incident occurred on October 16, when there were no less that 15 occurrences of stone-throwing and 5 petrol bomb attacks in the area.

"In KwaNobuhle, in the Eastern Cape, a classroom at a school was set alight. Two black youths were arrested in connection with the incident. In Soweto (WWR) [Witwatersrand], three black youths were arrested for being in possession of a petrol bomb this morning.

"In Mamelodi, near Pretoria, a black youth was arrested for intimidating a scholar at the Vlakfontein Technical High School not to attend school."

24 Oct Morning Report

MB240658 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0655 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Pretoria Oct 24 SAPA — During last night, unrest was restricted to the Western Cape, Boland, northern Transvaal and Eastern Province.

The following coloured residential areas in the Western Cape were affected: At Mitchells Plain, four men were arrested after barricades were erected in roads. At Hanover Park, a crowd gathered illegally. Two shots were fired at an SAP casspir from among the crowd. In the same area, SAP and private vehicles were stoned and extensively damaged.

A man was arrested in connected with these incidents. The body of a Coloured man was found, apparently killed in confrontation with security forces. At Phillipi, three bodies of Coloured males with shotgun wounds were found. At the University of the Western Cape, students burned tyres near an entrance. When the police arrived, they ran away. They were followed by the police, who found and seized six petrol bombs.

At Lansdowne, three private vehicles were gutted. At Athlone, a private vehicle was petrolbombed while a delivery vehicle and

another private vehicle were stoned. Damage was extensive. A woman was arrested in connection with these incidents.

At Elsies River, a man was arrested for barricading a road with burning tyres. In Salt River, a truck was extensively damaged by arsonists. At Old Crossroads, a black residential area in the western Cape, a hand grenade was hurled at an SAP casspir. No damage was caused and no-one was injured.

At Paarl East coloured residential area, in the Boland, a truck and a number of private vehicles were stoned. Police dispersed these mobs with tearsmoke and shotgun fire. A man was fatally wounded, while a woman was injured and arrested. A black primary school in the same area was extensively damaged by arsonists.

At KwaNobuhle black residential area, near Uitenhage, a bus was destroyed by arsonists. In Atteridgeville, near Pretoria, a bus was stoned and an SADF vehicle and a delivery vehicle were extensively damaged when they were petrolbombed. In the same area, two men who were placing burning barricades in a road, were arrested.

3 Shot in Settlement

MB240616 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0612 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Cape Town Oct 24 SAPA — Three people — two men and a woman — were shot by police in the squatter settlement at Site C, Khayelitsha near Cape Town, yesterday afternoon. Newsmen interviewed a man shot in the arm with birdshot an hour after the incident. The man — who asked for his name to be withheld — said he was returning from Bellville by taxi at about 5 pm. The taxi pulled up near a burning light delivery truck. As he got out he was shot by policemen with a shotgun. There were five vans and two casspirs at the scene, he said.

Another man, aged about 22, was seriously wounded at the same place. An interpreter said the man was returning from the shops when he passed the burning vehicle. Onlookers warned him to be careful as a policeman had a gun trained on him. As he turned a shot was fired and he was hit in the neck.

At the clinic he lay on a bed moaning in pain. There was a deep hole, 2cm broad in his neck, from which blood flowed. There was no evidence of birdshot. A doctor was unable to say what ammunition had been used.

"It's a very nasty wound. If it had been 1cm forward, the man would be dead," the doctor said. He was referred to hospital.

A woman in her thirties, was also allegedly shot by police while in her shack at Site C yesterday afternoon. Her upper chest and arms were peppered with birdshot, according to the clinic doctor.

According to a security guard at Site C, a vehicle trap was dug across the road near where the shooting occurred. Newsmen were advised to keep clear by youths, as their safety could not be guaranteed.

At the turn-off to the sprawling township, at about 7.30 pm, a group of white men in civilian clothes were seen toting a shotgun. A shot was fired into the air and two of the vehicles sped off to Site C. A watchman said he thought the men were off to guard company premises in Site C. Entrances to Crossroads were sealed off for the second consecutive day.

About 6 pm, SADF soldiers armed with rifles patrolled on foot along the centre of Lansdowne Road. They were backed by a number of armoured personnel carriers. The remnants of several barricades littered the road, as well as glass and stones.

In Hanover Park Road at 5.45 pm two police armed with shotguns kept guard over the smouldering wreck of a van. Two mounds of soil and concrete blocked the road, and looked as if they had been dumped from a truck. Flaming branches burnt in the road further on, and there was evidence of vehicles having been stoned earlier.

In Athlone at 5 pm, opposite Spes Bona High School, the latest additions to the police arsenal — the water cannon and two casspirs with mounted rubber bullet guns — patrolled. Police in vans and casspirs maintained a strong presence throughout the Cape Flats. Five University of the Western Cape students were arrested in the vicinity of Bellville Station early yesterday. A spokesman for the railway police confirmed that five students had been arrested for allegedly distributing pamphlets on railways property. A UWC spokesman said the students were summoned to appear in court and released.

One Killed in Cape

MB240533 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0519 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Excerpt] Cape Town Oct 23 SAPA — A man was killed and another injured by two shots fired from two moving cars in Hanover Park tonight after a day of widespread unrest.

Stone-throwing occurred throughout the day in the Peninsula, including along the N2 freeway to the airport and Somerset West. Motorists have been warned to travel the route at their own risk. The man killed in Hanover Park was Mr Paul Vidulich, 23, a driver for a pharmeceutical company. The injured man is Mr Carel Daniels, who works for a supermarket in Hanover Park. Witnesses reported that the shots were fired from a blue car and a yellow car.

The shooting took place after a barricade had been erected in Hanover Park Avenue. The cars approached the barricade and a shot was fired from one of the cars. Mr Daniels was hit in the right thigh. His employer, Mr Yusuf Moosa, described the wound as "a big hole."

The cars then turned into an adjacent street where another shot was fired, fatally wounding Mr Vidulich who was standing outside a block of flats.

A witness, Mrs Lorraine Harris, said she had been walking with Mr Vidulich and had seen the man who had shot him. She said he was someone she had seen in the area previously and said he

was a "Coloured" man who had a moustache and wore glasses. He was wearing a light blue shirt, she said. Police tonight said they had not been notified of the incidents.

Shots were heard in the suburb around 9 pm and numerous barricades burned in the streets. There was also a massive police presence at the Kismet Cinema in Athlone and the Wittebome Civic Centre in Wynberg tonight, venues for two planned public meetings which were banned earlier today. Roadblocks at which police searched cars were set up in Wynberg.

Late last night callers from Mitchells Plain reported teargas being fired into their homes in Westridge. Similar reports were received from residents in Hanover Park.

Police Against Vigilantism

MB240943 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0939 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Cape Town Oct 24 SAPA — Police today warned people not to take the law into their own hands during unrest and said vigilante groups would be viewed in a "serious light." Commenting after the fatal shooting last night of Mr Paul Vidulich in Hanover Park police liaison officer Lieutenant Attie Laubscher, said:

"We would like to call on people not to take the law into their own hands and people who have information to come forward. They will remain anonymous."

Mr Vidulich died after being hit in the chest by a bullet fired from a car at about 11 pm. Police believed the shot was fired by a civilian, but they had not been able to trace the man and appealed to him today to come forward.

Asked if police were aware of plans by civilians to set up vigilante groups, Lieutenant Laubscher said: "The police are not aware of any vigilante groups. If we become aware of such groups, we will investigate." He said police regarded "very seriously the taking of the law into ones own hands."

Cape Violence Continues

MB231919 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1914 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Cape Town, Oct 23, SAPA — As widespread violence continued in the western Cape today, a buffel-load of soldiers narrowly escaped injury on a patrol in Crossroads when a hand grenade was thrown at their vehicle. A police spokesman said the grenade exploded on the tarmac.

A car was seen speeding away from the scene and a massive police presence was reported in the area after the incident, which occurred at about 1.45 pm.

Police and fire engines were forced to withdraw at one stage from Sutherland Avenue in Kensington, where a truck was set alight, because of heavy stone-throwing. A bread lorry was also attacked in the suburb. Stone throwing occurred throughout the Peninsula and motorists were warned to travel the N2 route at their own risk.

By late this afternoon stone throwing was reported in many areas of Mitchells Plain and several cars were set alight. Vehicles were also burnt in Khayelitsha, Bonteheuwel and Kensington while blazing tyre barricades blocked roads. The Bonteheuwel housing estate complex was petrolbombed at about 2 pm, causing extensive damage to at least one office.

Violence flared again today in the Bo-Kaap, Cape Town, where incidents of stone-throwing occured and a car was set alight. Police again dispersed a crowd at the badly damaged Bloch Centre in Kraaifontein this morning. Stones and petrol bombs last night caused damage estimated at about R1 million to the shopping complex. A man was arrested in Kraaifontein in connection with the incident.

About 800 pupils from 10 schools met at Spes Bona High School this morning. Police units moved into the area after the meeting when vehicles on Jan Smuts Drive were stoned. Local and foreign reporters were ordered out of the area.

The principal of Symphony Senior Secondary School in Belhar, who declined to give his name, told reporters that soldiers in Buffel fired teargas canisters into the school grounds during the tea break this morning. The windscreen of one of the teachers cars was shattered and part of the school roof was damaged, he said.

UWC Students Adopt Resolution Not To Take Exams

MB240654 Johannesburg SAPA in English 0453 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Cape Town Oct 24 SAPA — A resolution not to write exams and calling on "progressive teachers" at schools and colleges to strike was adopted by 684 students at the University of the Western Cape [UWC].

They also decided against the feeling of the student body — deeply divided on the issue — being tested in a referendum.

The decision was taken at a meeting last night of about 1000 of UWC's 7,600 students at which a resolution calling on students to return to lectures received only eight votes.

Students said the political and educational crisis bound them "to stand together as one and pay whatever price."

They resolved not to write final exams "while our fellow comrades in the schools are unable to do so" and called on "all progressive staff" at schools and tertiary institutions to strike until students demands had been met.

It was not clear to what extent the decision not to write exams would be binding on the majority of UWC students who were not at the meeting.

Earlier, SRC [Student Representative Council] President Mr Llewellyn McMaster told the meeting UWC was "Turning into

a circus" where decisions taken one day were withdrawn the next. His suggestion that all UWC students cast votes in a referendum was rejected.

In a letter distributed at the meeting, UWC's rector, Professor R.E van der Ross, said 80 per cent of the 7,600 students had state bursaries which were not renewed if students failed.

A student with a state bursary for a four-year course who completed only three years would have to repay with interest money advanced over the three years.

Many students had made "great sacrifices" to complete the year and many more would have to return to jobs in 1986 and would not finish studies left over from 1985, he said.

That was why final exams had been re-scheduled for November-December and January, with supplementaries in February.

PFP Objects to 'Indiscriminate Firing' by Police

MB231528 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1412 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Cape Town, Oct 23, SAPA — The PFP's [Progressive Federal Party] unrest monitoring committee, which visited Mitchells Plain yesterday in response to complaints from residents, has objected strongly to "indiscriminate, dangerous firing by police into residential areas."

Mr Frank van der Velde, PFP whip in the provincial council and Cape Town city councillor, said in a statement he and Mr Paul Vorwerk had visited Mitchells Plain.

"According to statements made to us by a number of housewives, a group of children were walking back from a meeting along Merrydale Road yesterday morning when Casspir 94 and the new rapid-firing vehicle opened fire with teargas canisters and rubber bullets on the children.

"The statement, borne out by a number of independent witnesses, stated that the children were peaceful and that they saw no stones thrown at all. Teargas canisters were fired indiscriminately down a side lane into gradens where little children were playing. One, in fact, saw the burn marks of a teargas canister which landed on the steps of a house in Copenhagen Street blowing gas into a house occupied by an elderly woman and a young asthmatic child.

"It appears, to quote one witness, that the police were trying out their new toy, referring to the rapid firing to rubber bullets which were flying through the air like birds."

"We wish to object most strongly to indiscriminate, dangerous firing into residential areas. Police must now give us the assurance that innocent people be protected from the action that occurred this morning and elsewhere throughout the Cape."

A Pretoria police statement today said:

"We have no comment to make on Mr van der Velde's statement. We nevertheless find it surprising that a responsible person like him should choose this manner of criticising the police, instead of going through the proper channels. We trust Mr van der Velde will submit the statements in his possession to the correct authorities so that the necessary action can be taken: A copy of your telex is being forwarded to the divisional commissioner, Western Province, for his attention."

Legality of Funeral Restrictions Challenged

MB231205 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] The legality of blanket restrictions on black funerals in force in several parts of the country is in doubt following a finding in the Grahamstown Supreme Court. Don Maconnachie reports:

An order issued by the King William's Town Magistrate's Court on the 2d of this month restricting all funerals in the King William's Town district for a month was set aside by Judge Donald Kannemeyer. The order in question prohibited all black funerals from being held over weekends and limited attendance at all black funerals to 100. The application challenging the order was brought by the father of 20-year-old unrest victim Sekunzi Mbekha. Setting aside the order, Judge Kannemeyer said such blanket restrictions were invalid because they did not take into account the specific circumstances of the particular funerals. He says it was impossible to accept that all black funerals could lead to public violence and questioned the practicality of the limit on funeral-goers to 100 saying that funerals were not attended on invitation.

SABC Head Urges Effort Against International Campaign

MB231112 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 22 Oct 85

[Text] The chairman of the SABC board, Dr Brand Fourie, says South Africa could overcome the international onslaught against it with coordinated action.

Speaking at the annual dinner of the Pretoria Afrikaanse Sakekamer [Afrikaans Chamber of Commerce], Dr Fourie said that the present campaign against South Africa was being conducted on every possible level not only by church, sports, and political institutions, but also governments.

South Africans should realize that the destruction of the country's assets would affect each individual's future. Therefore, Dr Fourie said, it demanded the coordinated effort of all sectors in South Africa to fight the onslaught at every possible opportunity.

Methodists Approve Motion Against Military Service

MB231524 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] The Methodist Church of Southern Africa has approved a motion opposing military service. The church says one of the reasons it is not in favor of military service is that the system of

military duty forces thousands of young South Africans to participate in a lost cause in South-West Africa, and to fight against fellow South Africans within the country's borders.

The Methodist Church said at its conference in Bloemfontein that the ever-increasing defense budget and the increase in the number of people being called up for military duty does not offer a solution to the violence in the country, but on the contrary, aggravates the situation.

ECC Criticizes SADF Claim of No Political Activity

MB231809 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1720 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] Cape Town, Oct 23, SAPA — The End Conscription Campaign [ECC] has condemned the circulation of a pamphlet by the Defence Force that questions why the Army should leave the townships. In a statement released today, the ECC said the pamphlet was a clear indication that the SADF's claim that it was not involved in politics, was a lie.

"They make explicitly political statements in the pamphlet. Their very presence in the townships, furthermore, is the most explicitly political action they might wish to engage in," said the communique. The pamphlet questions why the SADF should be removed from the township, so that: There can be stone throwing, petrol bombs, arson, destruction of property, school and consumer boycotts through threats and the burning of men, women and children?"

It further states, "The SADF is the protector of peace-loving people. Those against the SADF presence in the townships are either not exposed to the violence or are the organisers of it." The ECC statement said the SADF presence was provocative and was seen as the symbol and defence of aprtheid. The pamphlet was fallacious as it claimed the SADF was something it was not; the actions of the SADF gave the lie to the pamphlets claim that it was "the protector of peace-loving people." It was the protectors of peace-loving people that the SADF was being used to put down legitimate opposition to apartheid. "Crude propaganda such as that, directed against the ECC, would do little to alter the views of the many conscripts, township residents and others who were calling for the troops to be withdrawn from the townships and for justice and peace in South Africa," said the statement.

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda Addresses UN on Arms Race

MB231213 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] His Excellency President Kaunda has said the UN's quest for averting a major war is being undermined by the arms race and the continuation of armed conflicts in numerous parts of the world. Addressing the 40th session of the UN General Assembly in New York yesterday, Dr Kaunda also said mankind has failed to build world peace and security and concrete and enduring foundation of love, truth, social justice, and fair play for all after 40 years of the founding of the United Nations.

He said world peace is being threatened by increased arms race, in both nuclear and conventional weapons although the third world war has not broken out.

Dr Kaunda predicted that this precarious situation will continue to menace world peace until there is an improved climate in the East-West relations and a reduction of [word indistinct].

He said Zambia welcomes the new contacts between the superpowers to reduce the arms race and a reduction in existing armament.

Kaunda Returns From U.S.

MB231839 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 23 Oct 85

[Text] His Exellency President Kaunda returned home today from an American tour that took him to Cuba, the Bahamas, and the United States.

In the Bahamas, the president addressed the Commonwealth heads of state and government summit where he called for sanctions against South Africa, while in the United States he addressed the UN General Assembly, where he emphasized the need to abolish apartheid and not to reform it.

ZIMBABWE

'Bandits' Kill Three Persons in Matabeleland

MB241138 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1100 GMT 24 Oct 85

[Text] Police in Zimbabwe say bandits have murdered a white farmer and his wife, as well as one of their employees, in a northen Matabeleland home.

The couple was killed at dusk, after they returned to their farm from a shopping trip to Bulawayo, 25 km away.

The farm worker, who was also killed, had accompanied them on their trip to the city.

Police say seven gunmen locked up the other farm workers and then ambushed the couple as they returned home.